



*Miles City Field Office*  
*Resource Management Plan (RMP)*  
*and*  
*Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)*

**SOCIOECONOMIC BASELINE REPORT**

Prepared for:

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
MILES CITY FIELD OFFICE  
111 Garryowen Road  
Miles City, MT 59301**

*Shared Lands ~  
Shared Plan*

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# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>1.0 INTRODUCTION .....</b>	<b>1-1</b>
<b>2.0 SOCIOECONOMIC STUDY AREA OVERVIEW.....</b>	<b>2-1</b>
<b>3.0 ECONOMIC CONDITIONS .....</b>	<b>3-1</b>
3.1 Summary .....	3-1
3.1.1 Employment and Poverty .....	3-1
3.1.2 Income.....	3-3
3.1.3 Government Revenues and Contributions.....	3-5
3.2 Economic Characteristics of Counties in the Study Area.....	3-5
3.2.1 Big Horn County .....	3-5
3.2.2 Carter County .....	3-6
3.2.3 Custer County .....	3-6
3.2.4 Daniels County.....	3-7
3.2.5 Dawson County.....	3-7
3.2.6 Fallon County.....	3-8
3.2.7 Garfield County.....	3-9
3.2.8 McCone County .....	3-9
3.2.9 Powder River County .....	3-10
3.2.10 Prairie County .....	3-10
3.2.11 Richland County.....	3-11
3.2.12 Roosevelt County .....	3-11
3.2.13 Rosebud County .....	3-12
3.2.14 Sheridan County.....	3-12
3.2.15 Treasure County .....	3-13
3.2.16 Valley County .....	3-13
3.2.17 Wibaux County .....	3-14
3.3 Key Industries in the Study Area.....	3-15
3.3.1 Agriculture .....	3-15
3.3.2 Mineral and Energy Development .....	3-15
3.3.3 Recreation and Tourism .....	3-16
<b>4.0 SOCIAL CONDITIONS.....</b>	<b>4-1</b>
4.1 Summary .....	4-1
4.1.1 Population .....	4-1
4.1.2 Age Distribution.....	4-1
4.1.3 Gender Distribution.....	4-1
4.1.4 Race/Ethnic Composition.....	4-1
4.1.5 Education .....	4-2
4.1.6 Housing Affordability .....	4-2
4.1.7 Social Well-being.....	4-2
4.2 Social Characteristics of Counties in the Study area.....	4-3
4.2.1 Big Horn County .....	4-3
4.2.2 Carter County .....	4-3
4.2.3 Custer County .....	4-4
4.2.4 Daniels County.....	4-4
4.2.5 Dawson County.....	4-5
4.2.6 Fallon County.....	4-5
4.2.7 Garfield County.....	4-6
4.2.8 McCone County .....	4-6
4.2.9 Powder River County .....	4-7

4.2.10	Prairie County .....	4-7
4.2.11	Richland County.....	4-7
4.2.12	Roosevelt County .....	4-8
4.2.13	Rosebud County .....	4-8
4.2.14	Sheridan County.....	4-9
4.2.15	Treasure County .....	4-9
4.2.16	Valley County .....	4-10
4.2.17	Wibaux County .....	4-10
4.3	Affected Groups .....	4-11
4.3.1	Livestock Permittees .....	4-11
4.3.2	Recreationists.....	4-11
4.3.3	Individuals and Groups who give a High Priority to Resource Protection .....	4-12
4.3.4	Individuals and Groups who give a High Priority to Resource Use .....	4-12
4.3.5	Communities .....	4-12
<b>5.0</b>	<b>ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE.....</b>	<b>5-1</b>
5.1	Guidance.....	5-1
5.2	Tribes.....	5-1
5.2.1	Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes of Fort Peck.....	5-1
5.2.2	Crow Tribe .....	5-2
5.2.3	Northern Cheyenne Tribe.....	5-3
5.3	Low-Income Populations .....	5-3
<b>6.0</b>	<b>REFERENCES .....</b>	<b>6-1</b>

## List of Figures

### Figure

1	MILES CITY FIELD OFFICE STUDY AREA .....	1-2
2	LAND OWNERSHIP (SURFACE ACRES) IN THE PLANNING AREA .....	2-1
3	POPULATION BY COUNTY .....	2-2
4	EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY IN THE STUDY AREA.....	3-1
5	UNEMPLOYMENT .....	3-2
6	PER CAPITA INCOME.....	3-3
7	TOTAL PERSONAL INCOME BY INDUSTRY IN 2000 IN THE STUDY AREA .....	3-4
8	OIL PRODUCTION IN THE PLANNING AREA.....	3-17
9	GAS PRODUCTION IN THE PLANNING AREA.....	3-17
10	COAL PRODUCTION IN THE PLANNING AREA.....	3-18
11	RACIAL MAKEUP OF THE STUDY AREA IN 2000.....	4-2

# Appendix

## A SOCIOECONOMIC TABLES

### Table

1	LAND OWNERSHIP IN 2002 .....	1
2	POPULATION BY AGE AND SEX IN 2000.....	2
3	PERSONS PER SQUARE MILE IN 2000 .....	3
4	EMPLOYMENT STATUS IN 1999.....	4
5	COUNTY EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY, 1970 TO 2000 .....	5
6	LOCATION QUOTIENTS, 2003 TO 2004 <sup>1</sup> .....	7
7	UNEMPLOYMENT, 1990 TO 2001 .....	8
8	INDIVIDUALS LIVING BELOW THE POVERTY LEVEL IN 1999 <sup>1</sup> .....	9
9	PERSONAL INCOME BY INDUSTRY, 1990 TO 2000 .....	10
10	INCOME YEAR IN 1999.....	12
11	PER CAPITA INCOME, 1970 TO 2000 .....	13
12	SOURCES OF INCOME IN 1999.....	14
13	PAYMENT IN LIEU OF TAXES IN 2003 .....	16
14	FEDERAL MINERAL ROYALTY DISTRIBUTIONS TO COUNTIES IN FISCAL YEAR 2004 .....	17
15	ASSESSED PROPERTY VALUATIONS IN 2002 <sup>1</sup> .....	18
16	FARMS IN 1997.....	19
17	LIVESTOCK INVENTORY IN 2004.....	20
18	GRAZING ALLOTMENTS .....	21
19	OIL, GAS, AND COAL PRODUCTION IN THE PLANNING AREA, 1986 TO 2003 .....	22
20	VISITOR DAYS AND PARTICIPANTS IN THE MILES CITY FIELD OFFICE BY ACTIVITY, 1999 TO 2004.....	23
21	POPULATION PROJECTIONS, 2010 AND 2020 .....	24
22	NEW RESIDENTS SINCE 1995.....	25
23	HOUSEHOLDS IN 2000 .....	26
24	AGE DISTRIBUTION IN 2000 .....	27
25	RACE AND ETHNICITY IN 2000 .....	28
26	EDUCATION IN 2000 .....	30
27	HOUSING AFFORDABILITY IN 2000.....	31
28	INDIAN RESERVATION DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION, 1990 AND 2000 .....	32

## **ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS**

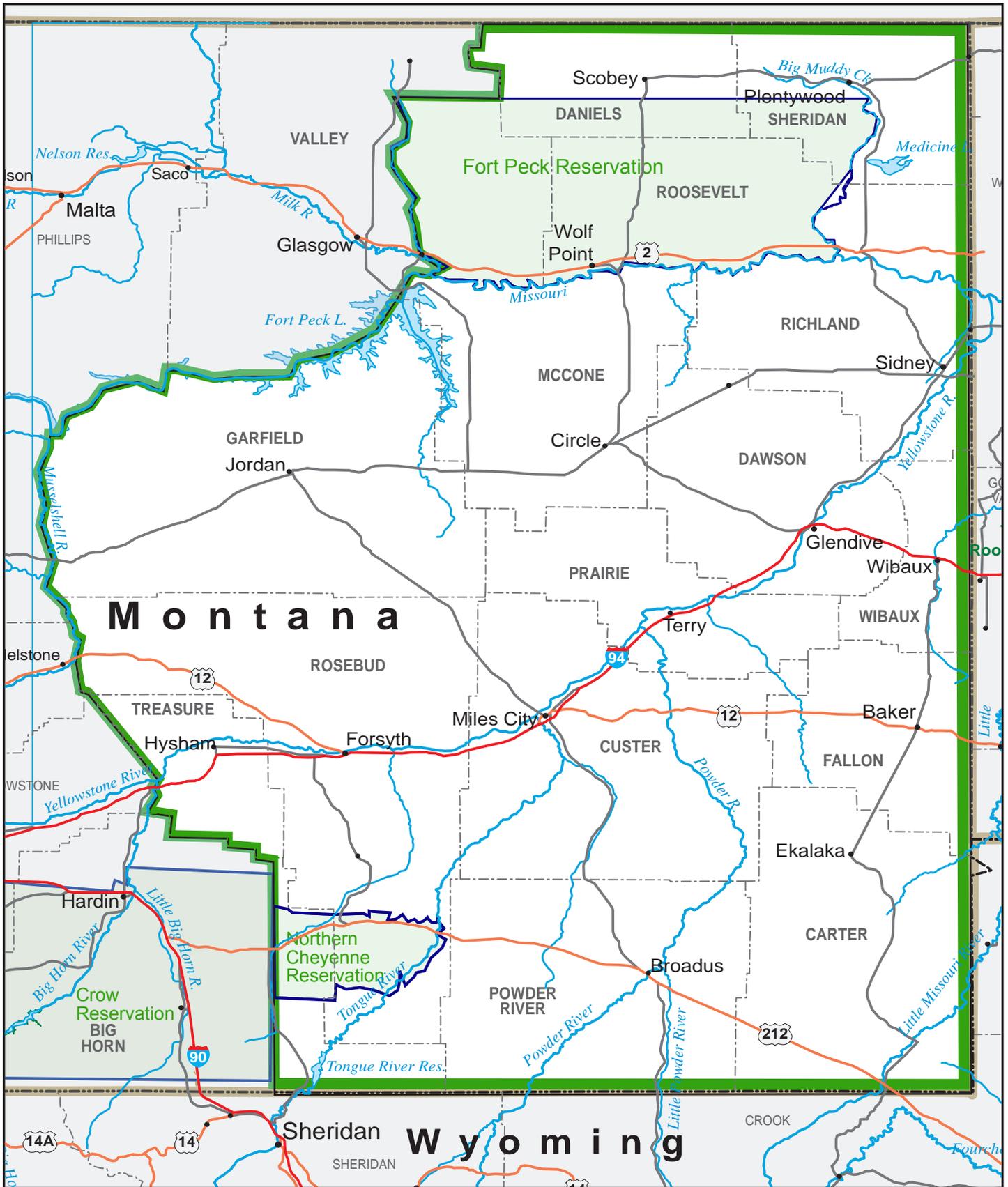
AUM	Animal Unit Month
BLM	Bureau of Land Management
DNRC	Department of Natural Resources and Conservation
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
MFWP	Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
OHV	Off-highway vehicle
PILT	Payment in lieu of taxes
RMP	Resource Management Plan
USDA	U.S. Department of Agriculture
USFS	USDA Forest Service
USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

## 1.0 Introduction

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is preparing a revised resource management plan (RMP) and environmental impact statement (EIS) for the Miles City Field Office, located in eastern Montana (Figure 1). As part of the RMP and EIS preparation, the BLM will analyze the impacts to the human environment, including social and economic conditions. The purpose of this report is to establish socioeconomic baseline information that will be used to help analyze the alternatives considered in the EIS.

This report was prepared pursuant to the following laws, regulations, and policies:

- National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) (42 USC 4321)
- Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 USC 1701 et seq.)
- Executive Order 12898, Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations
- BLM Instruction Memorandum 2002-167, Social and Economic Analysis
- BLM Instruction Memorandum 2002-164, Guidance to Address Environmental Justice in Land Use Plans and Related NEPA Documents



Parametrix Miles City 553-5055-001/01(08) 1/05 (B)

- ▬ Miles City RMP Planning Area
- County Lines
- State Borders
- Indian Reservation

**Figure 1**  
**Project Area**

## 2.0 Socioeconomic Study Area Overview

The Miles City Field Office planning area covers the eastern third of Montana. Counties within this field office include Carter, Custer, Daniels, Dawson, Fallon, Garfield, McCone, Powder River, Prairie, Richland, Roosevelt, Rosebud, Sheridan, Treasure, and Wibaux. In addition, parts of Big Horn and Valley Counties fall within the planning area (Figure 1). The socioeconomic study area (study area) is the area of analysis for the socioeconomic profile. The socioeconomic planning study includes the land area for all of the counties listed above because activities in the planning area have the potential to affect all of these counties and because economic and demographic statistics are primarily reported by county. Information reported for Big Horn and Valley Counties may include demographics that fall outside the Miles City Field Office planning area. Tables presenting socioeconomic information are located in Appendix A.

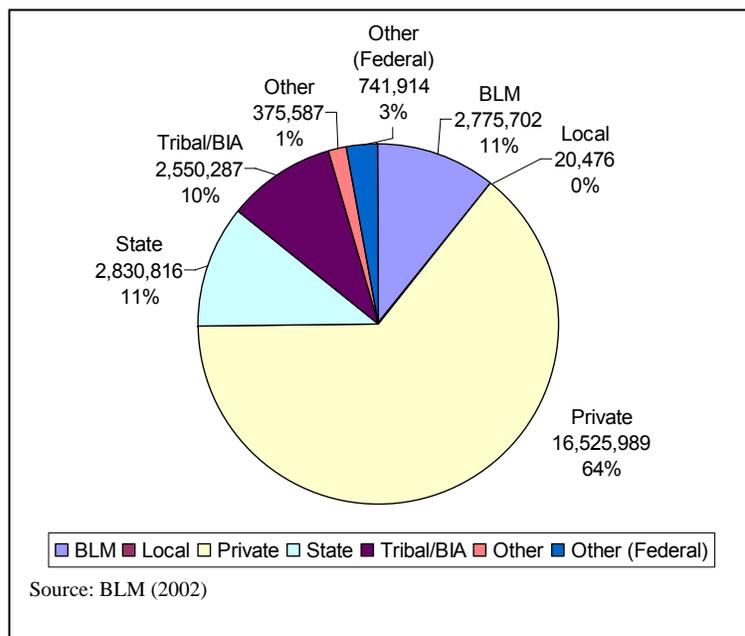
Montana consists of 93,153,553 acres (Montana Agricultural Statistics Service 2002). The Miles City Field Office planning area consists of 25,820,770 acres in 17 counties, approximately 28 percent of the land within the state of Montana (Table 1). Rosebud County has the

largest amount of land area in the planning area compared to other counties in the planning area. Sixty-four percent of the land in the planning area is privately owned (Table 1) (Figure 2). The principal land-owning entities within the planning area are the BLM (11 percent), the state (11 percent), and tribes (10 percent).

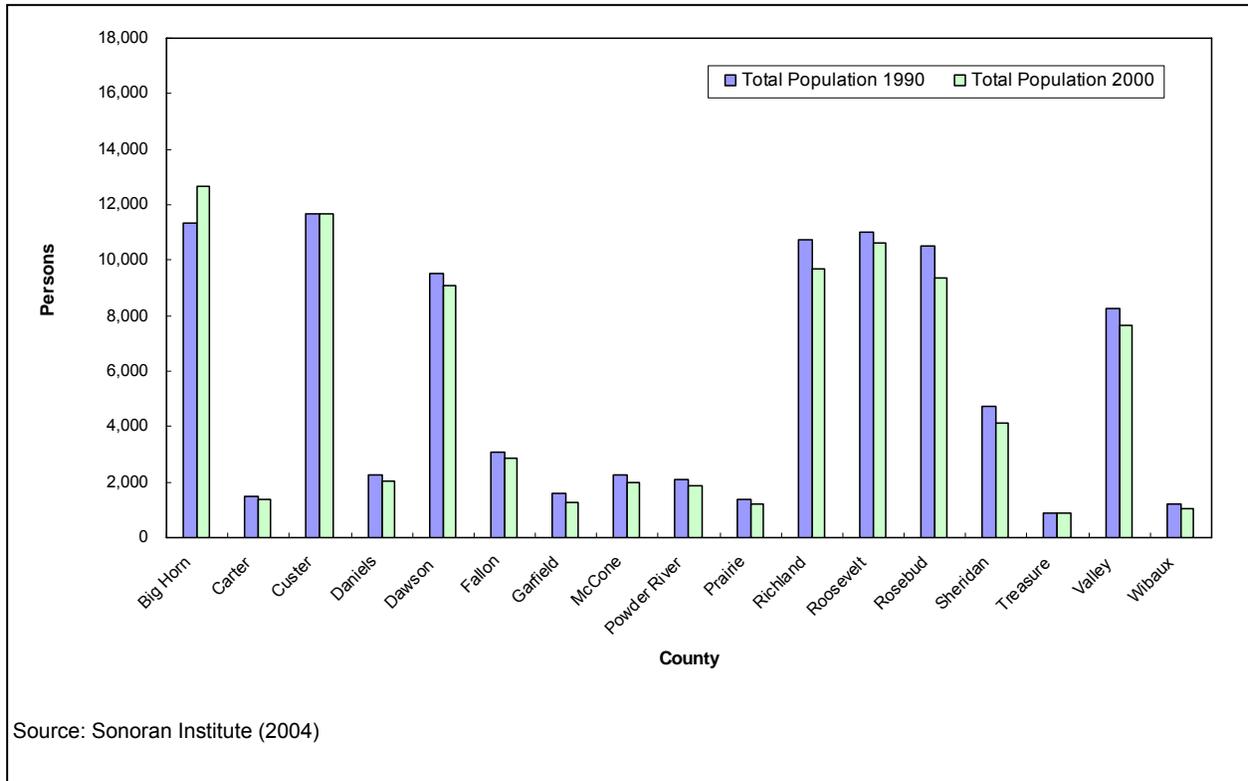
Population declined in almost all the counties in the study area from 1990 to 2000 (Table 2) (Figure 3). Overall, the population for the study area decreased by 5 percent between 1990 and 2000. This contrasts to the state of Montana and United States' population growth rates of 13 percent during the same period. According to a series of articles in the Billings Gazette, population in most eastern Montana communities is falling (Billings Gazette 2005a). Schools in some areas have closed because there are not enough school-age children to support the schools.

The study area is relatively sparsely populated (1.9 persons per square mile) compared to 6.2 persons per square mile for the state of Montana and 79.6 persons per square mile for the United States (Table 3).

**FIGURE 2**  
**LAND OWNERSHIP (SURFACE ACRES) IN THE PLANNING AREA**



**FIGURE 3  
POPULATION BY COUNTY**



## 3.0 Economic Conditions

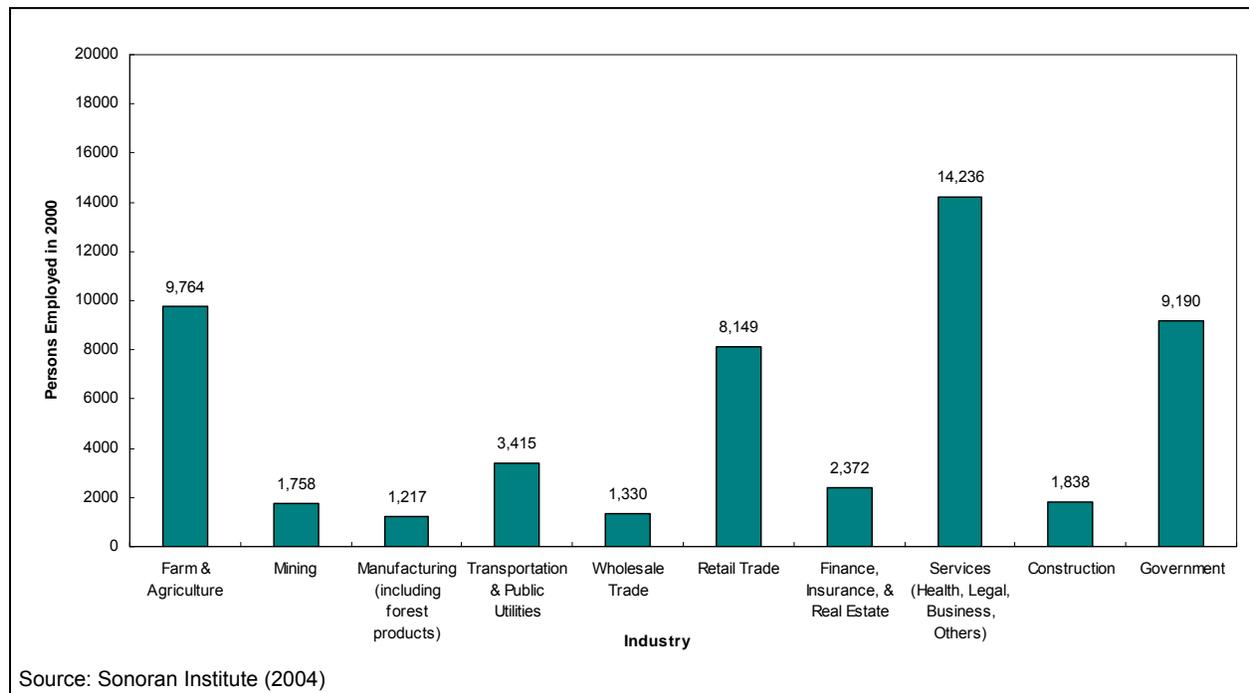
### 3.1 Summary

The following section discusses economic conditions of the study area as a whole. Economic conditions specific to each of the 17 counties are discussed in Section 3.2. Tables containing economic information referenced in both sections are in Appendix A. Employment, income, and industry information can indicate the health of the area's economy. According to the 2000 Census, services and agriculture employed the greatest number of people in the study area. Per capita income, median household income, and median family income for the study area were lower than the state and national income levels. The counties in the study area received \$2,379,343 in payments in 2003 from the federal government to compensate them for lost property tax revenue due to the presence of public lands. Demographics and economic conditions for the study area are provided in more detail below.

#### 3.1.1 Employment and Poverty

In 1999, the total labor force for the study area was 42,563 people, with 42,532 employed in civilian jobs and 31 employed with the armed forces (Table 4). The three largest industries (based on employment) in the study area in 2000 were services (27 percent), farm and agricultural services (18 percent), and government (17 percent) (Table 5) (Figure 4). Wholesale trade (2 percent) and manufacturing (2 percent) employed the least number of people in the study area. By comparison, the state of Montana and the United States had the highest employment levels in services, retail trade, and government. The largest increases in employment in the study area from 1970 to 2000 were in the services (109 percent), mining (73 percent), wholesale trade (41 percent), and government (29 percent) industries. Employment decreases occurred in manufacturing (-37 percent), agriculture (-22 percent), and transportation and public utilities (-2 percent).

**FIGURE 4**  
**EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY IN THE STUDY AREA**



An area's economic base comprises industries that are primarily responsible for bringing outside income into the local economy. These industries typically export their goods and services outside the region and, in turn, support other industries. An approach used to evaluate an area's economic base and its relative economic strength or weakness is to compare the specific area to a larger area, such as the United States. A location quotient compares the share of total employment in a particular industry division in the county with the share the industry represents in the United States.

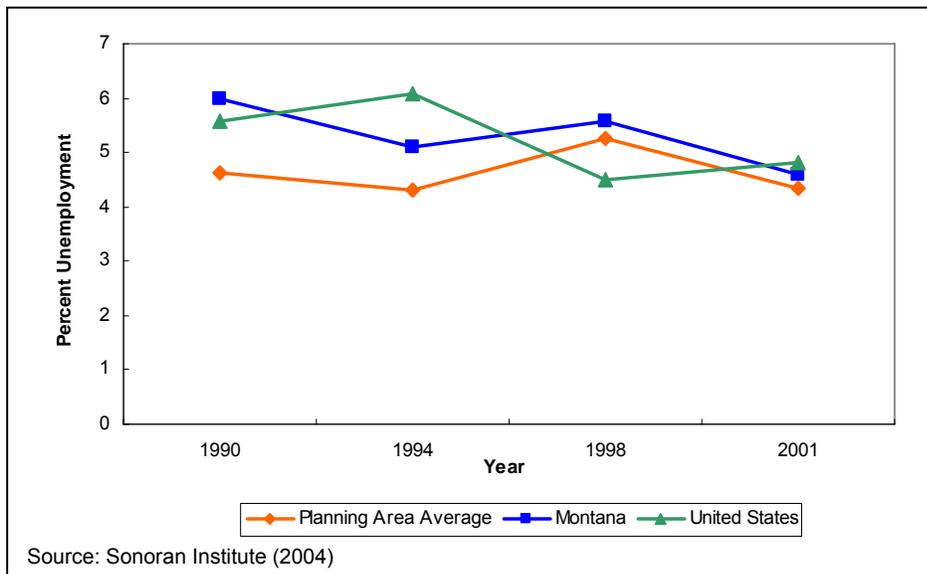
A location quotient is determined by dividing the local industry's share of local total employment by the same industry's share of total employment at the national level. A value higher than 1 denotes a local industry with a higher percentage of employment than exists in the same industry at the national level. A value below 1 denotes the opposite. A quotient of 1 denotes an industry in which the county is comparable to the United States as a whole. A quotient above 1 also implies that the good or service produced by an industry is exported from the area; a quotient below 1 is a sign that, hypothetically, goods or services must be imported into an area to provide the same consumption patterns found at the national level.

The greater the value above or below 1, the stronger the likelihood of exporting or importing goods. Location quotients greater than 2 indicate a strong industry concentration, while those less than 0.5 indicate a weak concentration.

Agriculture consistently has high location quotients for counties in the study area, indicating that the counties export agricultural goods and services (Table 6). Conversely, the construction industry had low location quotients for most counties, indicating that the area imports construction goods and services. The Montana Department of Labor and Industry could not estimate location quotients for all industries in all counties because of disclosure requirements.

In 2001, the unemployment rate average for the study area was 4 percent (Table 7) (Figure 5). Big Horn County had the highest unemployment rate (17 percent), and several counties such as Carter, Garfield, McCone, and Powder River had rates as low as 2 percent. For the study area as a whole, the unemployment rate over time (1990 to 2001) has remained low (4 to 5 percent), an indicator of economic stability. Over the same period, the unemployment rates for Montana and the United States ranged between 5 and 6 percent.

**FIGURE 5  
UNEMPLOYMENT**



The United States Census Bureau estimates poverty based on income and family size and composition. Approximately 20 percent of the study area residents were living below the poverty level in 1999 (Table 8). This was higher than the state (15 percent) and national (12 percent) levels.

The economy of the study area is fairly diverse, with a higher emphasis on agriculture than the state and nation. This is reflected in the employment, income, and location quotient by industry figures (Tables 5, 6, and 9). Like the state and national figures, the study area had high levels of employment and income in the services, government, and retail trade sectors.

### 3.1.2 Income

Income per job in the study area in 1999 was \$18,932, down 31 percent from \$27,408 in 1970 (Table 10). Only income per job in Rosebud County increased from 1970 to 1999. These figures are adjusted for inflation and are one indicator of economic stability. One reason income per job may have decreased is that people in the study area may be working part-time. A Billings Gazette article on the economy in eastern Montana indicates that many people in

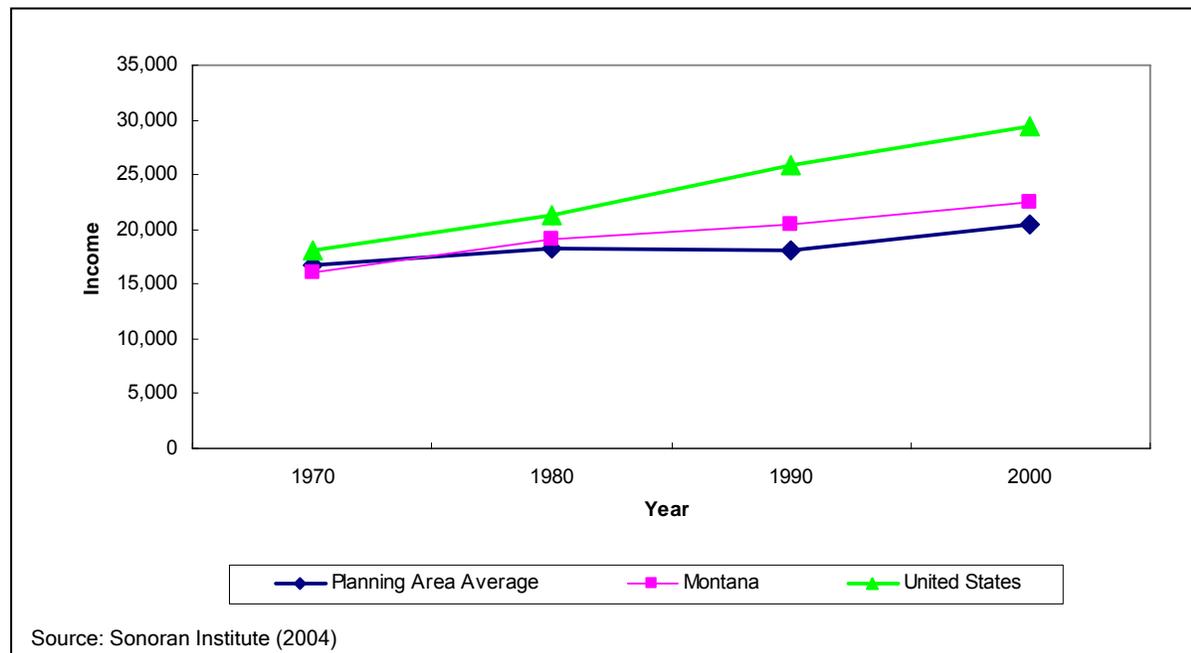
eastern Montana have more than one job (Billings Gazette 2005b). One person interviewed had jobs as a postmaster, housepainter, repair person, and secretary.

In 2000, per capita incomes for most of the counties in the study area were less than the state (\$22,518) and nation (\$29,469) per capita incomes (Table 11) (Figure 6). Per capita income (adjusted for inflation) increased by 23 percent for the study area from 1970 to 2000, but was still below the state and national levels.

Median household income was \$29,030, and median family income was \$35,329 in the study area in 1999 (Table 10). Median household income and median family income for Montana were \$33,024 and \$40,487, respectively, in 1999. For the United States in 1999, median household income and median family income were \$41,994 and \$50,046, respectively.

The largest sources of income in the study area in 1999 were wages (65 percent); self employment (11 percent); social security (9 percent); and interest, dividends, or net rentals (7 percent) (Table 12). The sources of income for Montana as a whole are similar, with

**FIGURE 6  
PER CAPITA INCOME**



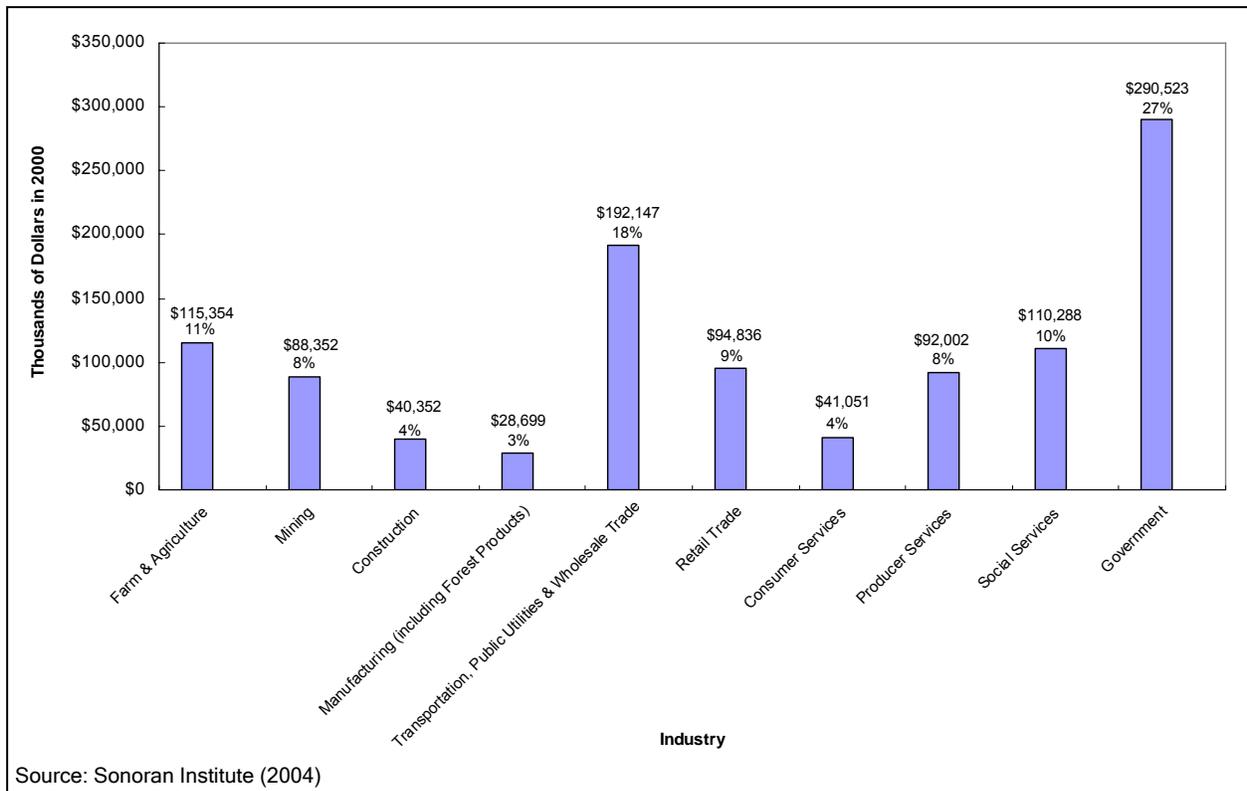
66 percent from wages; 9 percent from self employment; 8 percent from interest, dividends, or net rentals; and 7 percent from social security. At the national level, the most income was obtained from wages (75 percent). This was followed by interest, dividends, or net rentals (7 percent); self employment (6 percent); social security (5 percent); and retirement (5 percent).

In 2000, income in the study area from government services (27 percent); transportation, public utilities, and wholesale trade (18 percent); farm and agricultural services (11 percent), and social services (10 percent) sectors provided the greatest earnings (Table 9) (Figure 7). The manufacturing sector had the lowest income earnings in the study area (3 percent). By comparison, the government services (32 percent) and producer services (16 percent) sectors provided the greatest earnings for Montana, and the producer services (24 percent) and government services

(16 percent) sectors provided the greatest earning income for the United States. From 1990 to 2000, the sectors that had the greatest increases in income in the study area were social services (34 percent), consumer services (26 percent), and farm and agricultural services (12 percent). In that same period, several sectors in the study area had decreases in earnings. These sectors included manufacturing (-22 percent), mining (-15 percent), construction (-12 percent), and retail trade (-2 percent).

Although per capita income and earnings/job are lower than the state and national levels, the levels have remained relatively stable over time. Unemployment is lower than the state and national levels. Based on these figures, it appears that the economy of the study area is relatively stable.

**FIGURE 7**  
**TOTAL PERSONAL INCOME BY INDUSTRY IN 2000 IN THE STUDY AREA**



### 3.1.3 Government Revenues and Contributions

A source of local government revenue directly attributable to the public lands in each of the counties is payment in lieu of taxes (PILT). The federal government makes PILT payments to compensate counties for lost property tax revenue due to the presence of public lands. The counties in the study area received \$2,379,343 in PILT payments in 2003. This represents 14 percent of all PILT payments made to Montana counties in 2003 (Table 13). In 2003, Valley County received the greatest PILT payments (22 percent), followed by Custer County (19 percent), and Rosebud County (18 percent). The payments are made in proportion to the amount of federal land in each county.

The BLM provides a direct contribution to the study area economy by employing people in the Miles City Field Office. These employees reside in the area and expend dollars at local businesses. In 2003, the Miles City Field Office employed 81 permanent full-time staff, 7 temporary staff, 25 career seasonal part-time staff, and 3 students through the Student Career Educational Program (BLM 2004a).

Counties receive royalties from the production of minerals on federal lands. The amount of the royalty is based on the profit of the producer. In Fiscal Year 2004, the counties in the study area received \$2,880,614 in mineral (coal, oil, and gas) royalties (Table 14). The counties in the study area that received the greatest mineral royalties were Big Horn County (\$1,177,670), Rosebud County (\$722,316), and Fallon County (\$525,396). Daniels and Garfield Counties both received less than \$100 in mineral royalties during that same period.

The Montana Department of Revenue assesses value for all properties in the state of Montana. Utility properties (non-centrally assessed utilities, centrally assessed utilities, and telecommunications/electricity generation) had the highest total market value in the study area (Table 15). Agricultural properties (agricultural land and forest land) had the second highest total market value in the study area. Personal property (pollution control, business equipment, and

railroads/airlines) had the third highest total market value in the study area. Natural resources property had the lowest market value in the study area.

## 3.2 Economic Characteristics of Counties in the Study Area

### 3.2.1 Big Horn County

Big Horn County was formed in 1913. The county attained its name from the big horn sheep that inhabited the mountains to the southwest. Part of the Crow Indian Reservation is within the southern part of the county, and the western part of the Northern Cheyenne Indian Reservation is within the east part of the county. Big Horn County has a total area of 3,209,365 acres (Table 1), 636,095 (20 percent) of which are in the Miles City Field Office planning area. The town of Hardin represents the county seat and is outside of the planning area. Fifty-six percent of Big Horn County land within the Miles City Field Office planning area is privately owned (Table 1). The principal land-owning entities within the portion of Big Horn County in the Miles City Field Office planning area are Indian Tribes (Crow and Northern Cheyenne Indian Reservations) (32 percent), followed by the state (6 percent) and the BLM (4 percent).

Big Horn County had the second largest population in the study area in 2000 (Table 2). It was the only county to increase in population from 1990 to 2000. From 1990 to 2000, the population of Big Horn County rose by 12 percent, from 11,337 to 12,671 people. The population density was 2.5 persons per square mile in 2000 (Table 3).

In 2000, the industries that employed the most people were services (33 percent), government (21 percent), farm and agricultural services (16 percent), and retail trade (11 percent) (Table 5). Wheat, barley, oats, hay, beans, sugar beets, and cattle were the main agricultural products. The unemployment rate was 17 percent in 2001, the highest in the study area (Table 7). About 29 percent of the county's

residents were living below the poverty level (Table 8).

Per capita income for Big Horn County in 2000 was \$14,832 (Table 11). In 1999, median household income and median family income were \$27,684 and \$31,095, respectively (Table 10). The principal sources of income in Big Horn County were wages (75 percent), self employment (7 percent), and social security (6 percent) (Table 12).

Income from the government services (41 percent) and mining (21 percent) sectors provided the principal earnings for Big Horn County in 2000 (Table 9). Big Horn County received \$55,158 in PILT payments in 2003 (Table 13).

The Crow Indians historically occupied Big Horn County. Little Bighorn Battlefield National Monument is the location where the Sioux and Cheyenne annihilated George Armstrong Custer's company in 1876. Each August, the Crow Fair attracts tens of thousands of Indians and non-Indians to the reservation area referred to as the Tepee Capital of the World.

Other recreational and tourist sites that attracted visitors and helped to generate employment and income in the county include Yellowtail Dam, which forms the 70-mile-long Big Horn Lake and is visited for its fishing and water sports. Below the lake is the Big Horn River, a destination for trout anglers. The Pryor, Bighorn, and Rosebud Mountains are located in the southern portion of the county. Rosebud Battlefield State Park and Tongue River State Park (on the Tongue River reservoir) are located in the southeast part of the county, and Chief Plenty Coups State Park is located in the western part of the county.

### 3.2.2 Carter County

Carter County was formed in 1917 and is within the plains area bordering South Dakota to the east and Wyoming to the south. Carter County has a total area of 2,142,886 acres (Table 1). Ekalaka represents the county seat. Sixty five percent of the land within the county is privately owned (Table 1). The principal land-owning entities within Carter County are the

State (65 percent), followed by the BLM (24 percent) and by DNRC (Department of Natural Resources and Conservation) (Trust Lands) (7 percent).

From 1990 to 2000, the population of Carter County decreased 10 percent, from 1,503 to 1,360 people (Table 2). The population density was 0.4 person per square mile in 2000 (Table 3).

In 2000, the industries that employed the most people were farm and agricultural services (50 percent), government (16 percent), services (14 percent), and retail trade (7 percent) (Table 5). The main agricultural products were wheat, oats, hay, cattle, and sheep. The unemployment rate was 2 percent in 2001, one of the lowest in the study area (Table 7). Eighteen percent of the county's residents were living below the poverty level (Table 8).

Per capita income for Carter County in 2000 was \$17,930 (Table 11). In 1999, median household income and median family income were \$26,313 and \$32,262, respectively (Table 10). The principal sources of income in Carter County were wages (46 percent), self employment (29 percent), social security (10 percent), and interest, dividends, or net rentals (8 percent) (Table 12).

Income from the farm and agricultural services (28 percent); government services (27 percent); and transportation, public services, and wholesale trade (20 percent) sectors provided the greatest earnings for Carter County in 2000 (Table 9). Carter County received \$110,473 in PILT payments in 2003 (Table 13). Recreational resources that contributed to income and employment in the county's tourist industry include two sections of the Custer National Forest (one in the north central part of the county and the other in the eastern part of the county) and Medicine Rocks State Park, which is located within the northern part of the county.

### 3.2.3 Custer County

Custer County was formed in 1877, and its present boundaries were established in 1919. Custer County has a total area of 2,427,614 acres (Table 1). Miles City represents the county

seat. Seventy eight percent of the land within the county is privately owned (Table 1). The principal land-owning entities within Custer County are the BLM (14 percent) and DNRC (Trust Lands) (6 percent).

From 1990 to 2000, the population of Custer County remained the same at about 11,696 people (Table 2). The population density was 3.1 persons per square mile in 2000 (Table 3).

In 2000, the industries that employed the most people were services (29 percent), retail trade (22 percent), government (17 percent), and agriculture (9 percent) (Table 5). Wheat, oats, hay, corn, sugar beets, horses, and cattle sheep were the main agricultural products. The unemployment rate was 4 percent in 2001 (Table 7). Fifteen percent of the county's residents were living below the poverty level (Table 8).

Per capita income for Custer County in 2000 was \$22,040 (Table 11). In 1999, median household income and median family income were \$30,000 and \$38,779, respectively (Table 10). The principal sources of income in Custer County were wages (65 percent), social security (10 percent), self employment (9 percent), and interest, dividends, or net rentals (8 percent) (Table 12).

Income from the government services (30 percent), social services (17 percent), and retail trade (14 percent) sectors provided the greatest earnings for Custer County in 2000 (Table 9). Custer County received \$445,354 in PILT payments in 2003, the largest payment to a county in the study area (Table 13). Pirogue Island State Park and the BLM-managed Powder River Depot are recreational resources that contributed to income and employment in the county's tourist industry.

### 3.2.4 Daniels County

Daniels County was formed in 1920 and is an agricultural area bordering the Saskatchewan Province of Canada. The southern part of the county incorporates part of the Fort Peck Indian Reservation. Daniels County has a total area of 912,945 acres (Table 1). Scobey represents the

county seat of Daniels County. Sixty-nine percent of the land within the county is privately owned (Table 1). The principal land-owning entities within Daniels County are DNRC (Trust Lands) (24 percent) and the Fort Peck Tribes (16 percent).

From 1990 to 2000, the population of Daniels County decreased by 11 percent, from 2,266 to 2,017 people (Table 2). The population density was 1.4 persons per square mile in 2000 (Table 3).

In 2000, the industries that employed the most people were farm and agricultural services (33 percent), services (15 percent), government (12 percent), retail trade (10 percent), and transportation and public utilities (10 percent) (Table 5). Wheat, barley, oats, hay, and cattle were the main agricultural products. The unemployment rate was 3 percent in 2001 (Table 7). Seventeen percent of the county's residents were living below the poverty level (Table 8).

Per capita income for Daniels County in 2000 was \$29,033 (Table 11). In 1999, median household income and median family income were \$27,306 and \$35,722, respectively (Table 10). The principal sources of income in Daniels County were wages (49 percent), self employment (17 percent), interest, dividends, or net rentals (13 percent), and social security (12 percent) (Table 12).

Income from the farm and agricultural services (34 percent); transportation, public services, and wholesale trade (29 percent); and government services (16 percent) sectors provided the greatest earnings for Daniels County in 2000 (Table 9). Daniels County received \$267 in PILT payments in 2003 (Table 13). No recreational resources of note contributed to income and employment in the county's tourist industry.

### 3.2.5 Dawson County

Dawson County was formed in 1869, and its present boundaries were established in 1919. Dawson County has a total area of 1,525,190 acres (Table 1). Glendive represents the county seat. Eighty-nine percent of the land within the

county is privately owned (Table 1). The principal land-owning entities within Dawson County are DNRC (Trust Lands) (6 percent) and the BLM (4 percent).

From 1990 to 2000, the population of Dawson County decreased 5 percent, from 9,505 to 9,059 people (Table 2). The population density was 3.8 persons per square mile in 2000 (Table 3).

In 2000, the industries that employed the most people were services (28 percent), government (17 percent), retail trade (17 percent), farm and agricultural services (12 percent), and transportation and public utilities (11 percent) (Table 5). Wheat, barley, oats, hay, corn, beans, sugar beets, potatoes, cattle, sheep, hogs, and poultry (chickens, geese, ducks, and turkeys) were the main agricultural products. An oil field in the northwestern part of the county was discovered in 1951. The unemployment rate was 3 percent in 2001 (Table 7). Fifteen percent of the county's residents were living below the poverty level (Table 8).

Per capita income for Dawson County in 2000 was \$20,532 (Table 11). In 1999, median household income and median family income were \$31,393 and \$38,455, respectively (Table 10). The principal sources of income in Dawson County were wages (69 percent); social security (10 percent); self employment (6 percent); interest, dividends, or net rentals (6 percent); and retirement (6 percent) (Table 12).

Income from the transportation, public services, and wholesale trade (30 percent); government services (23 percent); and social services (12 percent) sectors provided the greatest earnings for Dawson County in 2000 (Table 9). Dawson County received \$86,319 in PILT payments in 2003 (Table 13). Recreational resources that contributed to income and employment in the county's tourist industry include Makoshika State Park, which is located in the southeastern/central part of the county. Rare paddle fish are found in the Yellowstone River. Dinosaur fossils, including triceratops, have been found in the county (Wikipedia 2005).

### 3.2.6 Fallon County

Fallon County is an agricultural region bordering North Dakota and South Dakota. The county was formed in 1913, and present boundaries were established in 1919. Fallon County has a total area of 1,038,711 acres (Table 1). Baker represents the county seat of Fallon County. Eighty-two percent of the land within the county is privately owned (Table 1). The principal land-owning entities within Fallon County are the BLM (11 percent) and DNRC (Trust Lands) (6 percent).

From 1990 to 2000, the population of Fallon County decreased 9 percent, from 3,103 to 2,837 people (Table 2). The population density was 1.8 persons per square mile in 2000 (Table 3).

In 2000, the industries that employed the most people were farm and agricultural services (23 percent), services (19 percent), retail trade (17 percent), and government (15 percent) (Table 5). The county's main agricultural products were wheat, barley, oats, corn, hay, beans, sugar beets, hogs, cattle, and sheep. The oil and gas industry was an important component of the Fallon County economy. In 2002, the Baker community celebrated 50 years of commercial oil production on the Cedar Creek Anticline. Oil production was credited with providing a healthy tax base, allowing the county to provide high-quality services and facilities such as new roads and medical equipment (Fallon County Times 2002). The unemployment rate was 3 percent in 2001 (Table 7). Thirteen percent of the county's residents were living below the poverty level (Table 8).

Per capita income for Fallon County in 2000 was \$21,117 (Table 11). In 1999, median household income and median family income were \$29,944 and \$38,636, respectively (Table 10). The principal sources of income in Fallon County were wages (61 percent), self employment (17 percent), social security (10 percent), and interest, dividends, or net rentals (7 percent) (Table 12).

Income from the government services (20 percent); transportation, public services, and wholesale trade (19 percent); and mining (18 percent) sectors provided the greatest earnings for Fallon County in 2000 (Table 9). Fallon County received \$109,765 in PILT payments in 2003 (Table 13). No recreational resources of note contributed to income and employment in the county's tourist industry.

### 3.2.7 Garfield County

Formed in 1919, Garfield County is an agricultural area bounded to the north by the Missouri River and to the west by the Musselshell River. Garfield County has a total area of 3,102,335 acres (Table 1). Jordan represents the county seat of Garfield County. Sixty-seven percent of the land within the county is privately owned (Table 1). The principal land owning entities within Garfield County are the BLM (16 percent) and other federal entities (7 percent).

From 1990 to 2000, the population of Garfield County decreased 20 percent, from 1,589 to 1,279 people (Table 2). The population density was 0.3 person per square mile in 2000, and had the lowest population density in the study area (Table 3).

In 2000, the industries that employed the most people were farm and agricultural services (45 percent), government (17 percent), services (14 percent), and retail trade (10 percent) (Table 5). The Billings Gazette reported that Jordan has lost many businesses and currently only has a grocery store, a restaurant, three gas stations, a couple of cafes and motels, a bank, two bars, a drugstore, and a handful of other small businesses (Billings Gazette 2005c). The article goes on to say that people in outlying areas rely on Jordan for basic supplies and services. Wheat, barley, oats, hay, sheep, cattle, and hogs were the main agricultural products. The unemployment rate was 2 percent in 2001, one of the lowest in the study area (Table 7). Twenty-one percent of the county's residents were living below the poverty level (Table 8).

Per capita income for Garfield County in 2000 was \$19,916 (Table 11). In 1999, median household income and median family income

were \$25,917 and \$31,111, respectively (Table 10). The principal sources of income in Garfield County were wages (50 percent), self employment (24 percent), social security (11 percent), and interest, dividends, or net rentals (7 percent) (Table 12).

Income from the farm and agricultural services (36 percent); government services (27 percent); and transportation, public services, and wholesale trade (12 percent) sectors provided the greatest earnings for Garfield County in 2000 (Table 9). Garfield County received \$111,887 in PILT payments in 2003 (Table 13). Recreational resources that contributed to income and employment in the county's tourist industry include Hell Creek State Park, Hell Creek Fossil Area, and the Fort Peck Reservoir. The reservoir is surrounded by Charles M. Russell National Wildlife Refuge.

### 3.2.8 McCone County

Formed in 1919, McCone County is an agricultural region bounded to the north by the Missouri River. McCone County has a total area of 1,716,945 acres (Table 1). Circle represents the county seat of McCone County. Seventy-nine percent of the land within the county is privately owned (Table 1). The principal land-owning entities within McCone County are the BLM (12 percent) and DNRC (Trust Lands) (5 percent).

From 1990 to 2000, the population of McCone County decreased 13 percent, from 2,276 to 1,977 people (Table 2). The population density was 0.7 person per square mile in 2000 (Table 3).

In 2000, the industries that employed the most people were farm and agricultural services (39 percent), government (15 percent), retail trade (12 percent), and services (11 percent) (Table 5). Wheat, barley, hay, sheep, cattle, and oil were the main products. The unemployment rate was 2 percent in 2001, one of the lowest in the study area (Table 7). Seventeen percent of the county's residents were living below the poverty level (Table 8).

Per capita income for McCone County in 2000 was \$19,801 (Table 11). In 1999, median

household income and median family income were \$29,718 and \$35,887, respectively (Table 10). The principal sources of income in McCone County were wages (53 percent), self employment (20 percent), social security (10 percent), and interest, dividends, or net rentals (10 percent) (Table 12).

Income from the farm and agricultural services (31 percent); transportation, public services, and wholesale trade (31 percent), and government services (18 percent) sectors provided the greatest earnings for McCone County in 2000 (Table 9). McCone County received \$163,478 in PILT payments in 2003 (Table 13). The main recreational resource contributing to income and employment in the county's tourist industry is Big Dry Creek of Fort Peck Reservoir, which is in the western part of the county. The Reservoir is surrounded by the Charles M. Russell National Wildlife Refuge.

### 3.2.9 Powder River County

Formed in 1919, Powder River County has a total area of 2,110,643 acres (Table 1). Broadus, a small, stable historic ranching community, represents the county seat of Powder River County. Sixty-five percent of the land within the county is privately owned (Table 1). The principal land-owning entities within Powder River County are the USFS (16 percent), BLM (12 percent), and DNRC (Trust Lands) (7 percent).

From 1990 to 2000, the population of Powder River County decreased 11 percent, from 2,090 to 1,858 people (Table 2). The population density was 0.6 person per square mile in 2000 (Table 3).

In 2000, the industries that employed the most people were farm and agricultural services (39 percent), government (22 percent), retail trade (11 percent), and services (11 percent) (Table 5). Wheat, oats, hay, cattle, sheep, oil and natural gas, and coal were the main products of the county. The unemployment rate was 2 percent in 2001 one of the lowest in the study area (Table 7). Thirteen percent of the county's residents were living below the poverty level (Table 8).

Per capita income for Powder River County in 2000 was \$17,332 (Table 11). In 1999, median household income and median family income were \$28,398 and \$34,671, respectively (Table 10). The principal sources of income in Powder River County were wages (54 percent), self employment (26 percent), social security (10 percent), and interest, dividends, or net rentals (5 percent) (Table 12).

Income from the government services (38 percent); transportation, public services, and wholesale trade (13 percent); and retail trade (13 percent) sectors provided the principal earnings for Powder River County in 2000 (Table 9). Powder River County received \$141,855 in PILT payments in 2003 (Table 13). Recreational resources that contributed to income and employment in the county's tourist industry include Custer National Forest, located in the western part of the county and BLM-managed Moorhead Recreation Site in the southwestern part of the county

### 3.2.10 Prairie County

Formed in 1915, Prairie County is an agricultural area drained by the Yellowstone and Powder Rivers. Prairie County has a total area of 1,115,214 acres (Table 1). Terry represents the county seat. Fifty-three percent of the land within the county is privately owned (Table 1). The principal land-owning entities within Prairie County are the BLM (40 percent) and DNRC (Trust Lands) (7 percent).

From 1990 to 2000, the population of Prairie County decreased 13 percent, from 1,383 to 1,199 people (Table 2). The population density was 0.7 person per square mile in 2000 (Table 3).

In 2000, the industries that employed the most people were farm and agricultural services (36 percent), government (26 percent), services (14 percent), and retail trade (12 percent) (Table 5). Wheat, barley, oats, corn (maize), hay, sugar beets, beans, cattle, sheep, hogs, and poultry were the main agricultural products. Gravel and oil were also produced in the county (though most, if not all, of the oil wells were said to be dry). The unemployment rate was 5 percent in 2001 (Table 7). Seventeen percent

of the county's residents were living below the poverty level (Table 8).

Per capita income for Prairie County in 2000 was \$21,809 (Table 11). In 1999, median household income and median family income were \$25,451 and \$32,292, respectively (Table 10). The principal sources of income in Prairie County were wages (60 percent), self employment (15 percent), and social security (13 percent) (Table 12).

Income from the government services (33 percent); farm and agricultural services (31 percent); and transportation, public services, and wholesale trade (13 percent) sectors provided the principal earnings for Prairie County in 2000 (Table 9). Prairie County received \$82,275 in PILT payments in 2003 (Table 13). Recreational resources that contributed to income and employment in the county's tourist industry include BLM-managed sites such as the Terry off-highway vehicle (OHV) Area and Terry Badlands.

### 3.2.11 Richland County

Richland County was formed in 1914; its present boundaries were established in 1919. This county is an agricultural area bordering on North Dakota to the east and bounded to the north by the Missouri River. Richland County has a total area of 1,345,906 acres (Table 1). Sidney, the county seat, is located in the Yellowstone River Valley and is the hub of a regional agriculture and energy economy. Eighty-nine percent of the land within the county is privately owned (Table 1). The principal land-owning entities within Richland County are DNRC (Trust Lands) (6 percent) and the BLM (4 percent).

From 1990 to 2000, the population of Richland County decreased 10 percent, from 10,716 to 9,667 people (Table 2). The population density was 4.6 persons per square mile in 2000 (Table 3).

In 2000, the industries that employed the most people were services (23 percent), retail trade (18 percent), farm and agricultural services (15 percent), and government (13 percent) (Table 5). Wheat, barley, oats, corn, beans, sugar beets, hay, cattle, sheep, and hogs were the

county's main agricultural products. Oil, coal, and limestone were also produced. The unemployment rate was 5 percent in 2001 (Table 7). Twelve percent of the county's residents were living below the poverty level (Table 8).

Per capita income for Richland County in 2000 was \$21,227 (Table 11). In 1999, median household income and median family income were \$32,110 and \$39,348, respectively (Table 10). The principal sources of income in Richland County were wages (64 percent), self employment (11 percent), interest, dividends, or net rentals (11 percent), and social security (8 percent) (Table 12).

Income from the government services (17 percent); transportation, public services, and wholesale trade (15 percent); and social services (12 percent) sectors provided the principal earnings for Richland County in 2000 (Table 9). Richland County received \$70,679 in PILT payments in 2003 (Table 13). No recreational resources of note contributed to income and employment in the county's tourist industry.

### 3.2.12 Roosevelt County

Roosevelt County was formed in 1919, and it is an agricultural area bordering North Dakota on the east and bordered to the south by the Missouri River. The state line on the east forms the Central/Mountain Time Zone boundary. Roosevelt County has a total area of 1,516,521 acres (Table 1). Wolf Point represents the county seat. Sixty-five percent of the land within the county is privately owned (Table 1). The principal land-owning entities within Roosevelt County are Indian Tribes (74 percent). The Fort Peck Indian Reservation covers all of the county west of Big Muddy River (approximately 75 percent).

From 1990 to 2000, the population of Roosevelt County decreased 3 percent, from 10,999 to 10,620 people (Table 2). The population density was 4.5 persons per square mile in 2000 (Table 3).

In 2000, the industries that employed the most people were services (35 percent), government (21 percent), farm and agricultural services

(15 percent), and retail trade (14 percent) (Table 5). Manufacturing (textiles and fabricated metal products) and agriculture (wheat, barley, oats, corn, beans, sugar beets, hay, cattle, hogs, and sheep) were the main county products. The unemployment rate was 7 percent in 2001 (Table 7). Thirty-two percent of the county's residents were living below the poverty level, also the highest rate in the study area (Table 8).

Per capita income for Roosevelt in 2000 was \$17,795 (Table 11). In 1999, median household income and median family income were \$24,834 and \$27,833, respectively (Table 10). The principal sources of income in Roosevelt County were wages (66 percent), self employment (11 percent), and social security (8 percent) (Table 12).

Income from the government services (36 percent), farm and agricultural services (16 percent), and producer services (14 percent) sectors provided the greatest earnings for Roosevelt County in 2000 (Table 9). Roosevelt County received \$5,528 in PILT payments in 2003 (Table 13). Recreational resources that contributed to income and employment in the county's tourist industry include parts of the Medicine Lake National Wildlife Refuge and the Fort Union Trading Post National Historical Site.

### 3.2.13 Rosebud County

Rosebud County was formed in 1901, and its present boundaries were established in 1919. Rosebud County has a total area of 3,217,103 acres, and it is the largest county in the study area (Table 1). Forsyth represents the county seat. Ashland and Colstrip are two other cities within the county. Seventy-six percent of the land within the county is privately owned (Table 1). The principal land owning entities within Rosebud County are Indian Tribes (8 percent) and BLM (7 percent). The Northern Cheyenne Indian Reservation and part of the Custer National Forest are located in the southern part of the county.

From 1990 to 2000, the population of Rosebud County decreased 11 percent, from 10,505 to 9,383 people (Table 2). In terms of numbers of people, this is the largest decrease in population

in the study area. The population density was 1.9 persons per square mile in 2000 (Table 3).

In 2000, the industries that employed the most people were services (33 percent), government (17 percent), transportation and public utilities (13 percent), farm and agricultural services (11 percent), and retail trade (11 percent) (Table 5). Wheat, barley, oats, hay, corn, beans, sugar beets, cattle, sheep, timber, and oil were the county's main products. There is a large open-pit coal mine at Colstrip. The unemployment rate was 7 percent in 2000 (Table 7). Twenty-two percent of the county's residents were living below the poverty level in 2000 (Table 8).

Per capita income for Rosebud County in 2000 was \$21,125 (Table 11). In 1999, median household income and median family income were \$35,898 and \$41,631, respectively (Table 10). The principal sources of income in Rosebud County in 2000 were wages (76 percent), self employment (8 percent), social security (6 percent), and interest, dividends, or net rentals (5 percent) (Table 12).

Income from the transportation, public services, and wholesale trade (31 percent); government services (22 percent); and mining (20 percent) sectors provided the principal earnings for Rosebud County in 2000 (Table 9). Rosebud County received \$433,077 in PILT payments in 2003 (Table 13). Custer National Forest is a recreational resource that contributed to income and employment in the county's tourist industry.

### 3.2.14 Sheridan County

Sheridan County was formed in 1913, and the present boundaries were established in 1920. The county borders the Saskatchewan Province of Canada to the north and North Dakota to the east. Both boundaries form the Central-Mountain Time Zone boundary. Sheridan County has a total area of 1,092,015 acres, with Plentywood representing the county seat (Table 1). Eighty-seven percent of the land within the county is privately owned (Table 1). The principal land-owning entities within Sheridan County are Indian Tribes (11 percent), DNRC (Trust Lands) (4 percent), and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) (3 percent). The Fort Peck Indian Reservation is located in the southwestern portion of the county.

From 1990 to 2000, the population of Sheridan County decreased 13 percent, from 4,732 to 4,105 people (Table 2). The population density was 2.4 persons per square mile in 2000 (Table 3).

In 2000, the industries that employed the most people were farm and agricultural services (28 percent), services (22 percent), retail trade (17 percent), and government (16 percent) (Table 5). Wheat, barley, oats, hay, sugar beets, cattle, hogs, and sheep were the main agricultural products of the county. Oil and coal were also produced. The unemployment rate was 3 percent in 2001 (Table 7). Fifteen percent of the county's residents were living below the poverty level (Table 8).

Per capita income for Sheridan County in 2000 was \$24,028 (Table 11). In 1999, median household income and median family income were \$29,518 and \$35,345, respectively (Table 10). The principal sources of income in Sheridan County were wages (50 percent), self employment (14 percent), interest, dividends, or net rentals (13 percent), and social security (12 percent) (Table 12).

Income from the farm and agricultural services (30 percent); government services (23 percent), and transportation, public services, and wholesale trade (11 percent) sectors provided the greatest earnings for Sheridan County in 2000 (Table 9). Sheridan County received \$2,412 in PILT payments in 2003 (Table 13). Recreational resources that contributed to income and employment in the county's tourist industry include numerous lakes in the southeastern, eastern, and northeastern parts of the county. Medicine Lake National Wildlife Refuge is in the southeast.

### 3.2.15 Treasure County

Treasure County was formed in 1919 and is the second smallest county in the study area, with a total area of 629,822 acres (Table 1). Hysham represents the county seat of Treasure County. Ninety-two percent of the land within the county is privately owned (Table 1). The principal land-owning entities within Treasure County are DNRC (Trust Lands) (6 percent) and the Fort Peck Tribes (2 percent).

Treasure County had the smallest population in the study area in 1990 and 2000. From 1990 to 2000, the population of Treasure County decreased 1 percent, from 874 to 861 people (Table 2). The population density was 0.9 person per square mile in 2000 (Table 3).

In 2000, the industries that employed the most people were farm and agricultural services (47 percent), government (20 percent), retail trade (12 percent), and services (9 percent) (Table 5). According to the *Billing Gazette*, some Treasure County residents commute to mining jobs in Rosebud County (*Billings Gazette* 2005d). The main agricultural products were wheat, barley, corn, sugar beets, beans, hay, cattle, and sheep. The unemployment rate was 3 percent in 2001 (Table 7). Fifteen percent of the county's residents were living below the poverty level (Table 8).

Per capita income for Treasure County in 2000 was \$17,506 (Table 11). In 1999, median household income and median family income were \$29,830 and \$34,219, respectively (Table 10). The principal sources of income in Treasure County were wages (63 percent), self employment (13 percent), social security (10 percent), and interest, dividends, or net rentals (8 percent) (Table 12).

Income from the government services (30 percent); transportation, public services, and wholesale trade (29 percent), and farm and agricultural services (27 percent) sectors provided the greatest earnings for Treasure County in 2000 (Table 9). Treasure County received \$979 in PILT payments in 2003 (Table 13). The Howry Island Wildlife Viewing Area, a recreational resource that contributes to income and employment in the county's tourist industry, is managed by the BLM.

### 3.2.16 Valley County

Valley County was formed in 1893, and its present boundaries were established in 1920. The county is an irrigated agricultural area bordering the Saskatchewan Province of Canada on the north. Valley County has a total area of 3,239,558 acres, of which 721,173 acres is within the planning area (Table 1). Only the eastern portion of this county is within the

planning area. Glasgow, the county seat, is also outside the planning area. The principal land owning entities of Valley County land within the Miles City Field Office planning area are Indian Tribes (99 percent).

From 1990 to 2000, the population of Valley County decreased 7 percent, from 8,239 to 7,675 people (Table 2). The population density was 1.6 persons per square mile in 2000 (Table 3).

In 2000, the industries that employed the most people were services (25 percent), farm and agricultural services (20 percent), retail trade (17 percent), and government (16 percent) (Table 5). Wheat, barley, oats, hay, cattle, sheep, hogs, and bentonite were the main products of the county. Valley County's economy has historically been tied to livestock, ranching, logging, mining, wildlife, and railroads. Access rights-of-way and water rights issues have been and continue to be critical issues for Valley County residents. Because less than one-third of the land in Valley County is privately owned, the county's economy depends principally on businesses such as livestock grazing, recreation, and other commercial activities operating on federal and state lands (Valley County 2003). Glasgow Air Force Base in the north central part of the county is now a site for aircraft testing. The unemployment rate was 4 percent in 2001 (Table 7). Fourteen percent of the county's residents were living below the poverty level (Table 8).

Per capita income for Valley County in 2000 was \$24,078 (Table 11). In 1999, median household income and median family income were \$30,979 and \$39,044, respectively (Table 10). The principal sources of income in Valley County in 2000 were wages (62 percent), self employment (10 percent), social security (11 percent), and interest, dividends, or net rentals (8 percent) (Table 12).

Income from the government services (24 percent); transportation, public services, and wholesale trade (18 percent), and farm and agricultural services (17 percent) sectors provided the greatest earnings for Valley County in 2000 (Table 9). Valley County received \$524,356 in PILT payments in 2003 (Table 13).

Recreational resources that contributed to income and employment in the county's tourist industry include part of the Charles M. Russell National Wildlife Refuge (in the southwestern part of the county surrounding the Fort Peck Reservoir and Porcupine Creek), which forms the western border of Fort Peck Indian Reservation in the eastern part of the county.

### 3.2.17 Wibaux County

Wibaux County was formed in 1914, and its present borders were established in 1919. The county is an agricultural region bordering North Dakota on the east. Wibaux County, the smallest county in the study area, has a total area of 569,654 acres (Table 1). Wibaux represents the county seat. Eighty-nine percent of the land within the county is privately owned (Table 1). The principal land-owning entities within Wibaux County are DNRC (Trust Lands) (6 percent) and the BLM (5 percent).

From 1990 to 2000, the population of Wibaux County decreased 10 percent, from 1,191 to 1,068 people (Table 2). The population density was 1.2 persons per square mile in 2000 (Table 3).

In 2000, the industries that employed the most people were farm and agricultural services (34 percent), services (22 percent), government (17 percent), and retail trade (14 percent) (Table 5). Wheat, barley, hay, cattle, sheep, and oil were the main products of the county. The unemployment rate was 3 percent in 2001 (Table 7). Fifteen percent of the county's residents were living below the poverty level (Table 8).

Per capita income for Wilboux County in 2000 was \$17,338 (Table 11). In 1999, median household income and median family income were \$28,224 and \$34,265, respectively (Table 10). The principal sources of income in Wibaux County were wages (50 percent); self employment (17 percent); interest, dividends, or net rentals (16 percent); and social security (10 percent) (Table 12).

Income from the government services (32 percent); farm and agricultural services (27 percent); and transportation, public services,

and wholesale trade (12 percent), sectors provided the greatest earnings for Wibaux County in 2000 (Table 9). Wibaux County received \$35,481 in PILT payments in 2003 (Table 13). Lamesteer National Wildlife Refuge, located in the southern part of the county, is a recreational resource that contributed to income and employment in the county's tourist industry.

### 3.3 Key Industries in the Study Area

Agriculture, minerals and energy development, and recreation and tourism are the industries in the study area most affected by BLM management. Agriculture is the largest industry in the study area and provides 18 percent of the jobs in the study area (Table 5). More information on these industries is presented below.

#### 3.3.1 Agriculture

Agriculture has traditionally been an important industry in the study area, and it continues to be important today. There were 6,609 farms in the study area in 1997, totaling 24,235 acres (Table 16). The average farm in the study area was 4,041 acres. The Billings Gazette reported that many large farms had to consolidate into even larger farms (Billings Gazette 2005e). These large farms use powerful machinery to keep labor costs to a minimum, reducing demand for farm jobs.

The total value of farm products sold in 1997 for the study area was \$552,231. The average value of farm products sold per farm in the study area in 1997 was \$89,699. In 1997, 45 percent of the sales were from crops and 55 percent from poultry and livestock. This compares to a statewide average value of farm products sold per farm of \$77,051 (48 percent crops and 52 percent livestock and poultry) and a nationwide average value of farm products sold per farm of \$102,970 (50 percent crops and 50 percent livestock and poultry).

There were 128,400 sheep and lambs and 850,000 cattle and calves in the study area in 2004 (Table 17). This represents 43 percent of the sheep and lambs in the state and 35 percent of the cattle and calves in the state.

Many livestock operators in the field office area graze livestock on public lands. In 2005, there were 544,564 animal unit months (AUMs) available for livestock use in the Miles City Field Office planning area. The planning area contained 1,699 grazing allotments that covered 12,465,374 acres. Of this total, 2,737,086 acres were on BLM-administered lands (Table 18).

#### 3.3.2 Mineral and Energy Development

At the study area level, mining provides 3 percent of the jobs (Table 5). Many counties in the planning area have mineral resources and have supported conventional oil and gas and/or coal bed natural gas development, including Big Horn, Carter, Custer, Fallon, Powder River, Rosebud, Roosevelt, and Treasure Counties (BLM 2003a). To analyze impacts from conventional oil and gas and coal bed methane development, the BLM and the state of Montana prepared a joint EIS and RMP amendment. The planning area covered the state with an emphasis on the BLM planning areas. For analysis purposes, the BLM and the state of Montana predicted that approximately 10,000 to 26,000 coal bed natural gas wells could be drilled over the next 20 years, in addition to a number of conventional oil and gas wells. Since issuance of the Record of Decision in 2003, the BLM and the Montana Board of Oil and Gas Conservation approved four coal bed natural gas projects. There is a high level of regional interest in coal bed natural gas production with most concerns focused on water-related impacts (BLM 2005a). Wind power is another type of energy technology that is being developed in the planning area.

Based on the royalties received by the counties from the production of minerals on federal lands (Fiscal Year 2004), Big Horn County (\$1,177,670), Rosebud County (\$722,316), and Fallon County (\$525,396) have the largest production of minerals on federal lands of any of the counties in the study area (Table 14).

BLM tracks federal and Indian coal leases by county. In fiscal year 2003, 32,499 acres in Big Horn County, 440 acres were leased in Richland County, and 7,137 acres in Rosebud County were leased for coal production (BLM 2003e).

Oil, gas, and coal production in the planning area has been tracked since 1986 (Table 19). Total oil production in the planning area since 1986 has fluctuated from 13,016,426 to 21,875,709 barrels of oil per year (Figure 8). Oil production on federal lands in the planning area has remained relatively stable, fluctuating from 2,111,654 to 3,127,828 barrels of oil since 1986. Total gas production in the planning area since 1986 has fluctuated from 13,014,427 to 21,873,723 thousand cubic feet of gas per year (Figure 9). Gas production on federal lands in the planning area has generally increased since 1986, from a low of 848,237 thousand cubic feet of gas in 1990 to a high of 9,866,954 thousand cubic feet of gas in 2004. Total coal production in the planning area since 1986 has fluctuated from 30,585,347 to 36,892,799 short tons (Figure 10).

### 3.3.3 Recreation and Tourism

Employment in recreation and tourism is reflected primarily in the services and retail trade sectors. Together, those industries count for 42 percent of the jobs in the study area.

Public lands provide recreational opportunities for both local residents and tourists from outside the area. The study area offers many recreational opportunities. Key attractions include Medicine Rocks State Park, Pirogue Island State Park, Charles M. Russell National Wildlife Refuge, Hell Creek State Park, Hell Creek Fossil Area, Custer National Forest, Medicine Lake National Wildlife Refuge, Fort Union Trading Post National Historical Site, and Lamesteer National Wildlife Refuge (Wikipedia 2005).

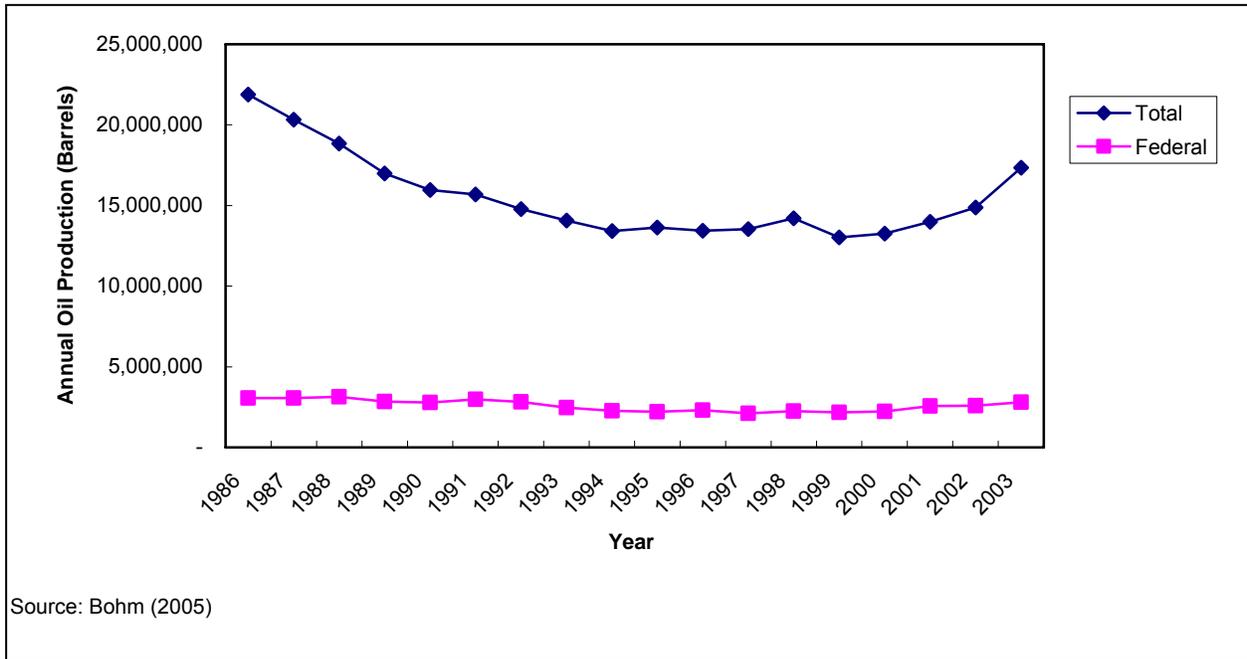
The Billings Gazette reported on people buying land in eastern Montana for its recreational value (Billings Gazette 2005f). These buyers often look for land close to public lands to extend their recreational range. The article explained that these landowners reside in other states and only come out a couple times a year to hunt do other recreational activities.

The Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks (MFWP) provides information on recreation in Montana and divides the state into seven regions. The Miles City Field Office planning area is primarily in Region 7, which is known for mule deer, antelope, upland game, bird, and waterfowl hunting; fishing in ponds, reservoirs, and three major rivers; and wildlife viewing (MFWP 2005). The region has six state parks, four wildlife management areas, and numerous fishing access sites. Survey results reported in the State Outdoor Recreation Plan stated that the primary outdoor recreation activities in Region 7 were walking (25 percent), other activity (13 percent), none (10 percent), golf (9 percent), fishing (8 percent), hunting (6 percent), and horseback riding (5 percent) (MFWP 2003).

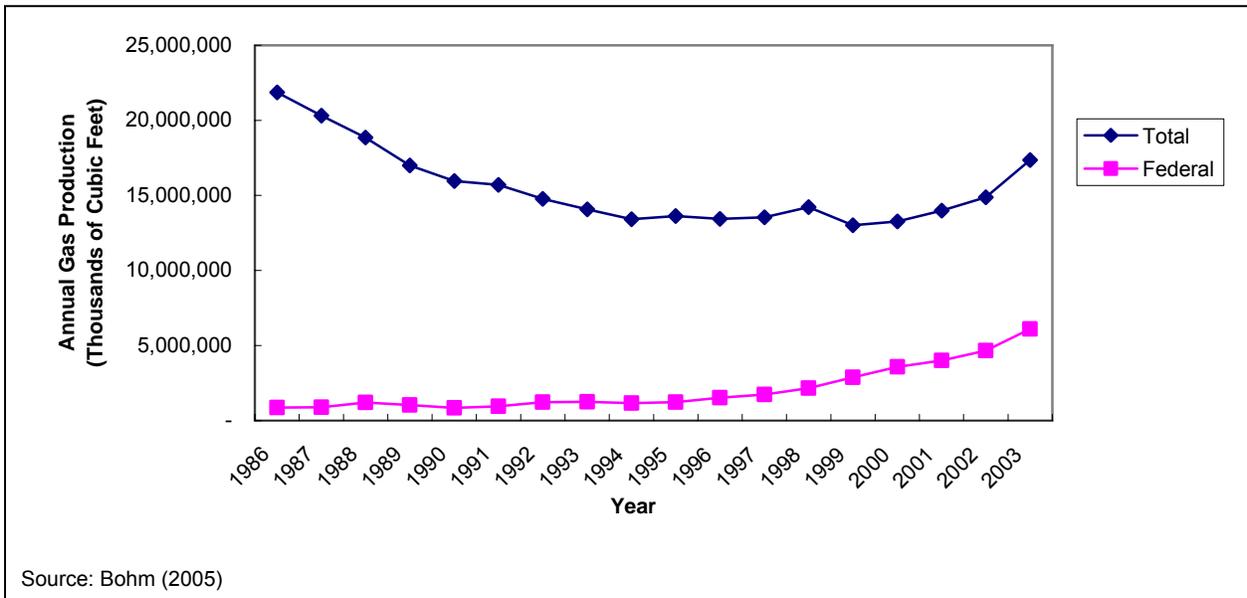
The BLM collects recreation data by recreational activity for each field office (Table 20). Numbers of participants and visitor days were documented for 31 recreational activities ranging from hunting to hiking to picnicking. Big game hunting had the highest participant levels with 60,417 participants and 33,510 visitor days in 2004. Camping, driving for pleasure, upland bird hunting, picnicking, target practice, and wildlife viewing also had substantial levels. Most recreational activities have had at least a 10 percent increase in participants and visitor days since 1999. Only power boating and viewing cultural sites have had a decrease in participation since 1999. OHV motorcycling has had a 124 percent increase in participants since 1999, the largest percentage increase of all activities.

There are nine major BLM-administered recreation sites in the Miles City Field Office planning area. They are the Moorehead Recreation Site, Howrey Island Wildlife Viewing Area, W.L. Matthews Recreation Wildlife Area, Powder River Depot, Terry Badlands, Terry OHV Area, Glendive Short Pine OHV Area, Elk Island Wildlife Viewing Area, and Big Sky Back Country Byway (BLM 2004b).

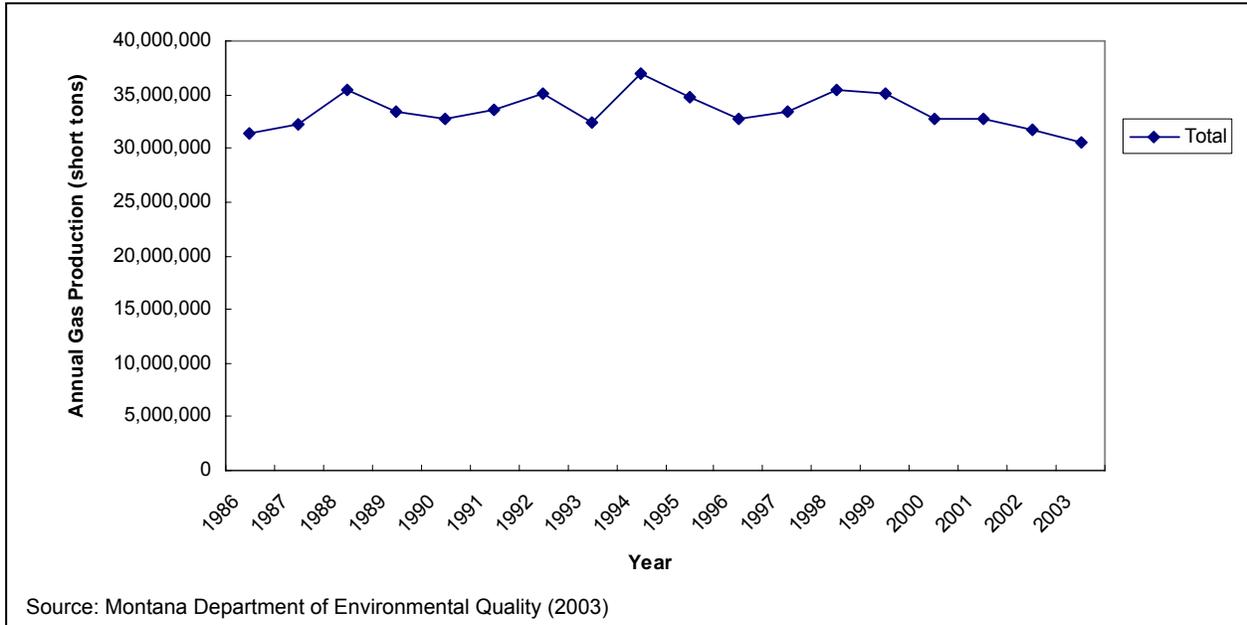
**FIGURE 8  
OIL PRODUCTION IN THE PLANNING AREA**



**FIGURE 9  
GAS PRODUCTION IN THE PLANNING AREA**



**FIGURE 10**  
**COAL PRODUCTION IN THE PLANNING AREA**



## 4.0 Social Conditions

### 4.1 Summary

The following section discusses social conditions of the study area as a whole. Social conditions specific to each of the 17 counties are discussed in Section 4.2. Tables containing social information referenced in both sections are in Appendix A. Unlike the United States' and Montana's population growth, the population of the study area decreased by 5 percent between 1990 and 2000. The main racial groups in the study area are White (78 percent) and Native American (20 percent). Demographics and social conditions for the study area are provided in more detail below.

#### 4.1.1 Population

Population in the 17 counties totaled 89,332 people in 2000 and represented 10 percent of Montana's population (Table 21). The population for the entire study area decreased 5 percent between 1990 and 2000. This contrasted to the state of Montana's and the United States' population growth rates of 13 percent during the same period. Population in the study area is expected to decrease to 88,390 in 2010 and to increase to 92,570 in 2020.

Changes in the total population are the result of natural changes (the net result of births and deaths) and net migration. Net migration is the net result of persons moving in and out of the study area. When asked in 2000, 16 percent of the study area residents 5 years and older lived in a different county in 1995 (Table 22). The trend was similar to nationwide migration (18 percent lived in a different county), and lower than statewide migration (23 percent lived in a different county).

The study area was relatively sparsely populated in 2000, with two persons per square mile (Table 3). This compared to 6 persons per square mile for the state of Montana and 80 persons per square mile for the United States.

In 2000, there were 44,273 households in the study area, out of which an average of 31 percent had children under the age of 18 living with them; 58 percent were married couples living together; 8 percent had a female householder with no husband present; and 31 percent were non-families (householder living alone or with non-relatives) (Table 23). Twenty-eight percent of all households in the study area were composed of individuals, and 13 percent had someone living alone who was 65 years of age or older. The average household size in the study area was two people, and the average family size was three people.

#### 4.1.2 Age Distribution

For the entire study area in 2000, an average of 26 percent of the residents were under age 18, 6 percent of the residents were 18 to 24 years, 24 percent of the residents were 25 to 44 years, 26 percent of the residents were 45 to 54 years, and 18 percent of the residents were 65 and older (Table 24).

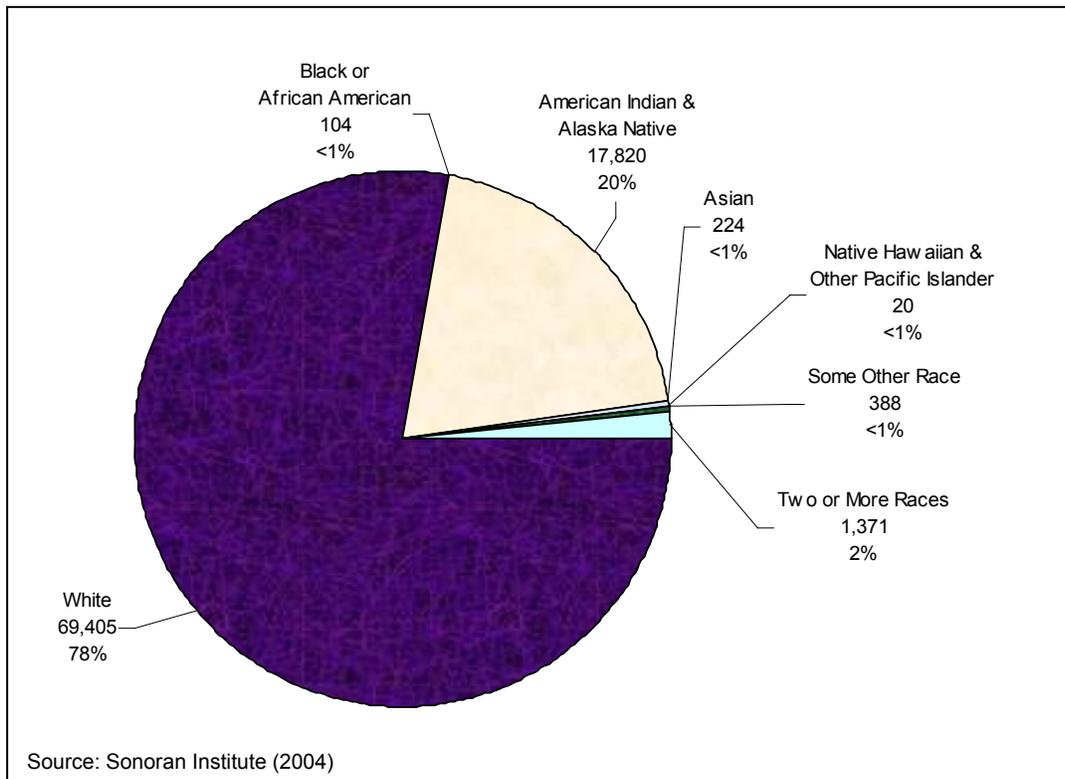
#### 4.1.3 Gender Distribution

The study area and state of Montana had a 50 percent male/female split in 2000. The United States had a 49 percent/51 percent male/female split in 2000 (Table 2).

#### 4.1.4 Race/Ethnic Composition

In 2000, the racial makeup of the study area was 78 percent White, less than 1 percent Black or African American, 20 percent Native American, less than 1 percent Asian, less than 1 percent Pacific Islander, less than 1 percent from other races, and 2 percent from two or more races (Table 25) (Figure 11). Two percent of the population was Hispanic or Latino of any race (according to the United States Census, people who identify their origin as Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino may be of any race).

**FIGURE 11  
RACIAL MAKEUP OF THE STUDY AREA IN 2000**



Note: Two percent of study area residents reported having Hispanic/Latino ethnicity, which can fall under any of the race categories depicted above.

#### 4.1.5 Education

An average of 83 percent of the study area residents age 25 and older were high school graduates in 2000 (Table 26). Sixteen percent attained a bachelor's degree or higher. Montana had a higher level of high school graduates (87 percent), and the United States had a lower level of high school graduates (80 percent) compared to the study area. However, both Montana and the United States had higher levels of attainment for bachelor's degrees or higher (24 percent for both); for the study area, the level of attainment was 16 percent.

#### 4.1.6 Housing Affordability

Housing in the study area was affordable in 2000. The housing affordability index average

for the study area is 260 (100 or above means that the median family can afford the median house) (Table 27). All counties in the study area had a housing affordability index of 179 or higher.

#### 4.1.7 Social Well-being

The factors discussed in this section provide a general indication of the feeling of social well-being in the study area. There are many positive factors. The area's remoteness and sparse population lessens or avoids many urban problems such as crime and overcrowding. Recreational opportunities are plentiful. Conversely, services such as health care and education are lacking in some communities. The percent of persons living below the poverty level is higher in most counties in the study area

compared to the state of Montana average (Table 8).

Information on social conditions for a large portion of the study area (based on discussions with 100 residents in the study area [Trent 1991]), indicated that most residents believed their lifestyle needs were being met. Those who said that their needs were not being met indicated that the lack of cultural activities and tough economic times were the key challenges. Other important indicators of social well-being that occurred in the study area were proximity to the outdoors and wide open spaces, good people, small town atmosphere, an active and supportive community, an ability to earn a living, and outdoor recreation opportunities. In addition, the area was considered a good place to raise children (BLM 1995).

## **4.2 Social Characteristics of Counties in the Study area**

### **4.2.1 Big Horn County**

The population of Big Horn County was projected to increase to 13,750 in 2010 and 14,990 in 2020 (Table 21). Data obtained in 2000 indicated that 16 percent of Big Horn County residents 5 years and older lived in a different county in 1995 (Table 22). The gender distribution had a 49 percent/51 percent male/female split in 2000 (Table 2).

In 2000, the racial makeup of the county was 37 percent White, less than 1 percent Black or African American, 60 percent Native American, less than 1 percent Asian, less than 1 percent Pacific Islander, 1 percent from other races, and 3 percent from two or more races (Table 25). Four percent of the population was Hispanic or Latino of any race.

There were 3,924 households in Big Horn County in 2000, 42 percent of which had children under the age of 18 living with them. Fifty-four percent were married couples living together; 18 percent had a female householder with no husband present; and 23 percent were non-families (Table 23). Approximately 19 percent of all households consisted of individuals, and 7 percent had someone living

alone who was 65 years of age or older. The average household size was three people, and the average family size was four people.

The age distribution of the county consisted of relatively young people in 2000, with 36 percent under the age of 18, 9 percent from 18 to 24 years, 27 percent from 25 to 44 years, 21 percent from 45 to 64 years, and 9 percent 65 years of age or older (Table 24). This is likely due to the relatively young population on the Fort Peck Indian Reservation, where the median age was 30 years (Sonoran Institute 2004).

In 2000, 76 percent of Big Horn County residents age 25 and older were high school graduates. Fourteen percent attained a bachelor's degree or higher (Table 26).

Housing in Big Horn County was affordable in 2000, with a housing affordability index for the county of 179 (Table 27).

### **4.2.2 Carter County**

The population of Carter County was projected to decrease to 1,310 in 2010 and increase to 1,330 in 2020 (Table 21). Data obtained in 2000 indicated that 15 percent of Carter County residents 5 years and older lived in a different county in 1995 (Table 22). The gender distribution had a 49 percent/51 percent male/female split in 2000 (Table 2).

In 2000, the racial makeup of the county was 99 percent White, less than 1 percent Black or African American, less than 1 percent Native American, less than 1 percent Asian, less than 1 percent Pacific Islander, less than 1 percent from other races, and 1 percent from two or more races (Table 25). One percent of the population was Hispanic or Latino of any race.

There were 543 households in Carter County in 2000, 31 percent of which had children under the age of 18 living with them; 61 percent were married couples living together; 7 percent had a female householder with no husband present; and 30 percent were non-families (Table 23). Approximately 27 percent of all households consisted of individuals, and 15 percent had someone living alone who was 65 years of age or older. The average household size was two

people, and the average family size was three people.

The ages of the county's population were widely distributed, with 27 percent under the age of 18, 4 percent from 18 to 24 years, 25 percent from 25 to 44 years, 27 percent from 45 to 64 years, and 18 percent who were 65 years of age or older (Table 24).

In 2000, 83 percent of Carter County residents age 25 and older were high school graduates. Fourteen percent attained a bachelor's degree or higher (Table 26).

Housing in Carter County was affordable in 2000, with a housing affordability index of 330 for the county (Table 27).

#### 4.2.3 Custer County

The population of Custer County was projected to decrease to 11,500 in 2010 and increase to 12,040 in 2020 (Table 21). Data obtained in 2000 indicated that 19 percent of Custer County residents 5 years and older lived in a different county in 1995 (Table 22). The gender distribution had a 49 percent/51 percent male/female split in 2000 (Table 2).

In 2000, the racial makeup of the county was 97 percent White, less than 1 percent Black or African American, 1 percent Native American, less than 1 percent Asian, less than 1 percent Pacific Islander, less than 1 percent from other races, and 1 percent from two or more races (Table 25). Two percent of the population was Hispanic or Latino of any race.

There were 4,768 households in Custer County in 2000, 30 percent of which had children under the age of 18 living with them; 51 percent were married couples living together; 10 percent had a female householder with no husband present; and 35 percent were non-families (Table 23). Approximately 30 percent of all households consisted of individuals, and 12 percent had someone living alone who was 65 years of age or older. The average household size was two people, and the average family size was three people.

The ages of the county's population were widely distributed, with 25 percent under the age of 18, 8 percent from 18 to 24 years, 26 percent from 25 to 44 years, 24 percent from 45 to 64 years, and 17 percent who were 65 years of age or older (Table 24).

In 2000, 85 percent of Custer County residents age 25 and older were high school graduates. Nineteen percent attained a bachelor's degree or higher (Table 26).

Housing in Custer County was affordable in 2000, with a housing affordability index of 217 for the county (Table 27).

#### 4.2.4 Daniels County

The population of Daniels County was projected to decrease to 1,840 in 2010 and remain about the same in 2020 (Table 21). Data obtained in 2000 indicated that 13 percent of Daniels County residents 5 years and older lived in a different county in 1995 (Table 22). The gender distribution had a 49 percent/51 percent male/female split in 2000 (Table 2).

In 2000, the racial makeup of the county was 96 percent White, less than 1 percent Black or African American, 1 percent Native American, less than 1 percent Asian, less than 1 percent Pacific Islander, 1 percent from other races, and 2 percent from two or more races (Table 25). Two percent of the population was Hispanic or Latino of any race.

There were 892 households in Daniels County in 2000, 24 percent of which had children under the age of 18 living with them; 55 percent were married couples living together; 6 percent had a female householder with no husband present; and 37 percent were non-families (Table 23). Approximately 34 percent of all households consisted of individuals, and 18 percent had someone living alone who was 65 years of age or older. The average household size was two people, and the average family size was three people.

The ages of the county's population were widely distributed, with 22 percent under the age of 18, 5 percent from 18 to 24 years, 20 percent from 25 to 44 years, 30 percent from 45 to 64 years,

and 24 percent who were 65 years of age or older (Table 24).

In 2000, 85 percent of Daniels County residents age 25 and older were high school graduates. Fourteen percent attained a bachelor's degree or higher (Table 26).

Housing in Daniels County was affordable in 2000, with a housing affordability index of 280 for the county (Table 27).

#### 4.2.5 Dawson County

The population of Dawson County was projected to decrease to 8,590 in 2010 and increase to 8,760 in 2020 (Table 21). Data obtained in 2000 indicated that 20 percent of Dawson County residents 5 years and older lived in a different county in 1995 (Table 22). The gender distribution had a 50 percent male/female split in 2000 (Table 2).

In 2000, the racial makeup of the county was 97 percent White, less than 1 percent Black or African American, 1 percent Native American, less than 1 percent Asian, less than 1 percent Pacific Islander, less than 1 percent from other races, and 1 percent from two or more races (Table 25). One percent of the population was Hispanic or Latino of any race.

There were 3,625 households in Dawson County in 2000, 30 percent of which had children under the age of 18 living with them; 59 percent were married couples living together; 7 percent had a female householder with no husband present; and 32 percent were non-families (Table 23). Approximately 28 percent of all households consisted of individuals, and 12 percent had someone living alone who was 65 years of age or older. The average household size was two people, and the average family size was three people.

The ages of the county's population were widely distributed, with 23 percent under the age of 18, 9 percent from 18 to 24 years, 25 percent from 25 to 44 years, 25 percent from 45 to 64 years, and 18 percent who were 65 years of age or older (Table 24).

In 2000, 83 percent of Dawson County residents age 25 and older were high school graduates. Fifteen percent attained a bachelor's degree or higher (Table 26).

Housing in Dawson County was affordable in 2000, with a housing affordability index of 217 for the county (Table 27).

#### 4.2.6 Fallon County

The population of Fallon County was projected to decrease to 2,590 in 2010 and decrease to 2,580 in 2020 (Table 21). Data obtained in 2000 indicated that 16 percent of Fallon County residents 5 years and older lived in a different county in 1995 (Table 22). The gender distribution had a 51 percent/49 percent male/female split in 2000 (Table 2).

In 2000, the racial makeup of the county was 99 percent White, less than 1 percent Black or African American, less than 1 percent Native American, less than 1 percent Asian, less than 1 percent Pacific Islander, less than 1 percent from other races, and 1 percent from two or more races (Table 25). Less than 1 percent of the population was Hispanic or Latino of any race.

There were 1,140 households in Fallon County in 2000, 32 percent of which had children under the age of 18 living with them; 61 percent were married couples living together; 6 percent had a female householder with no husband present; and 30 percent were non-families (Table 23). Approximately 27 percent of all households consisted of individuals, and 13 percent had someone living alone who was 65 years of age or older. The average household size was two people, and the average family size was three people.

The ages of the county's population were widely distributed, with 26 percent under the age of 18, 6 percent from 18 to 24 years, 26 percent from 25 to 44 years, 25 percent from 45 to 64 years, and 18 percent who were 65 years of age or older (Table 24).

In 2000, 86 percent of Fallon County residents age 25 and older were high school graduates. Fourteen percent attained a bachelor's degree or higher (Table 26).

Housing in Fallon County was affordable in 2000, with a housing affordability index of 285 for the county (Table 27).

#### 4.2.7 Garfield County

The population of Garfield County was projected to decrease to 1,160 in 2010 and remain about the same in 2020 (Table 21). Data obtained in 2000 indicated that 13 percent of Garfield County residents 5 years and older lived in a different county in 1995 (Table 22). The gender distribution had a 52 percent/48 percent male/female split in 2000 (Table 2).

In 2000, the racial makeup of the county was 99 percent White, less than 1 percent Black or African American, less than 1 percent Native American, less than 1 percent Asian, less than 1 percent Pacific Islander, less than 1 percent from other races, and less than 1 percent from two or more races (Table 25). Less than 1 percent of the population was Hispanic or Latino of any race.

There were 532 households in Garfield County in 2000, 29 percent of which had children under the age of 18 living with them; 60 percent were married couples living together; 5 percent had a female householder with no husband present; and 31 percent were non-families (Table 23). Approximately 28 percent of all households consisted of individuals, and 14 percent had someone living alone who was 65 years of age or older. The average household size was two people, and the average family size was three people.

The ages of the county's population were widely distributed, with 25 percent under the age of 18, 7 percent from 18 to 24 years, 23 percent from 25 to 44 years, 26 percent from 45 to 64 years, and 19 percent who were 65 years of age or older (Table 24).

In 2000, 85 percent of Garfield County residents age 25 and older were high school graduates. Seventeen percent attained a bachelor's degree or higher (Table 26).

Housing in Garfield County was affordable in 2000, with a housing affordability index of 317 for the county (Table 27).

#### 4.2.8 McCone County

The population of McCone County was projected to decrease to 1,780 in 2010 and decrease to 1,770 in 2020 (Table 21). Data obtained in 2000 indicated that 16 percent of McCone County residents 5 years and older lived in a different county in 1995 (Table 22). The gender distribution had a 50 percent male/female split in 2000 (Table 2).

In 2000, the racial makeup of the county was 97 percent White, less than 1 percent Black or African American, 1 percent Native American, less than 1 percent Asian, less than 1 percent Pacific Islander, less than 1 percent from other races, and 1 percent from two or more races (Table 25). One percent of the population was Hispanic or Latino of any race.

There were 810 households in McCone County in 2000, 30 percent of which had children under the age of 18 living with them; 67 percent were married couples living together; 4 percent had a female householder with no husband present; and 26 percent were non-families (Table 23). Approximately 25 percent of all households consisted of individuals, and 11 percent had someone living alone who was 65 years of age or older. The average household size was two people, and the average family size was three people.

The ages of the county's population were widely distributed, with 25 percent under the age of 18, 5 percent from 18 to 24 years, 24 percent from 25 to 44 years, 27 percent from 45 to 64 years, and 19 percent who were 65 years of age or older (Table 24).

In 2000, 86 percent of McCone County residents age 25 and older were high school graduates. Sixteen percent attained a bachelor's degree or higher (Table 26).

Housing in McCone County was affordable in 2000, with a housing affordability index of 298 for the county (Table 27).

#### 4.2.9 Powder River County

The population of Powder River County was projected to decrease to 1,720 in 2010 and decrease to 1,710 in 2020 (Table 21). Data obtained in 2000 indicated that 21 percent of Powder River County residents 5 years and older lived in a different county in 1995 (Table 22). The gender distribution had a 49 percent/51 percent male/female split in 2000 (Table 2).

In 2000, the racial makeup of the county was 97 percent White, less than 1 percent Black or African American, 2 percent Native American, less than 1 percent Asian, less than 1 percent Pacific Islander, less than 1 percent from other races, and 1 percent from two or more races (Table 25). One percent of the population was Hispanic or Latino of any race.

There were 737 households in Powder River County in 2000, 31 percent of which had children under the age of 18 living with them; 65 percent were married couples living together; 4 percent had a female householder with no husband present; and 29 percent were non-families (Table 23). Approximately 25 percent of all households consisted of individuals, and 10 percent had someone living alone who was 65 years of age or older. The average household size was two people, and the average family size was three people.

The ages of the county's population were widely distributed, with 27 percent under the age of 18, 5 percent from 18 to 24 years, 23 percent from 25 to 44 years, 27 percent from 45 to 64 years, and 19 percent who were 65 years of age or older (Table 24).

In 2000, 83 percent of Powder River County residents age 25 and older were high school graduates. Sixteen percent attained a bachelor's degree or higher (Table 26).

Housing in Powder River County was affordable in 2000, with a housing affordability index of 205 for the county (Table 27).

#### 4.2.10 Prairie County

The population of Prairie County was projected to decrease to 1,130 in 2010 and decrease to 1,120 in 2020 (Table 21). Data obtained in 2000 indicated that 20 percent of Prairie County residents 5 years and older lived in a different county in 1995 (Table 22). The gender distribution had a 52 percent/48 percent male/female split in 2000 (Table 2).

In 2000, the racial makeup of the county was 98 percent White, less than 1 percent Black or African American, 1 percent Native American, less than 1 percent Asian, less than 1 percent Pacific Islander, less than 1 percent from other races, and 1 percent from two or more races (Table 25). One percent of the population was Hispanic or Latino of any race.

There were 537 households in Prairie County in 2000, 22 percent of which had children under the age of 18 living with them; 61 percent were married couples living together; 2 percent had a female householder with no husband present; and 34 percent were non-families (Table 23). Approximately 31 percent of all households consisted of individuals, and 17 percent had someone living alone who was 65 years of age or older. The average household size was two people, and the average family size was three people.

The ages of the county's population were widely distributed, with 19 percent under the age of 18, 4 percent from 18 to 24 years, 20 percent from 25 to 44 years, 33 percent from 45 to 64 years, and 24 percent who were 65 years of age or older (Table 24).

In 2000, 79 percent of Prairie County residents age 25 and older were high school graduates. Fifteen percent attained a bachelor's degree or higher (Table 26).

Housing in Prairie County was affordable in 2000, with a housing affordability index of 313 for the county (Table 27).

#### 4.2.11 Richland County

The population of Richland County was projected to decrease to 9,940 in 2010 and

increase to 9,900 in 2020 (Table 21). Data obtained in 2000 indicated that 15 percent of Richland County residents 5 years and older lived in a different county in 1995 (Table 22). The gender distribution had a 50 percent male/female split in 2000 (Table 2).

In 2000, the racial makeup of the county was 97 percent White, less than 1 percent Black or African American, 2 percent Native American, less than 1 percent Asian, less than 1 percent Pacific Islander, 1 percent from other races, and 1 percent from two or more races (Table 25). Two percent of the population was Hispanic or Latino of any race.

There were 3,878 households in Richland County in 2000, 34 percent of which had children under the age of 18 living with them; 57 percent were married couples living together; 7 percent had a female householder with no husband present; and 32 percent were non-families (Table 23). Approximately 29 percent of all households consisted of individuals, and 13 percent had someone living alone who was 65 years of age or older. The average household size was two people, and the average family size was three people.

The ages of the county's population were widely distributed, with 28 percent under the age of 18, 6 percent from 18 to 24 years, 27 percent from 25 to 44 years, 24 percent from 45 to 64 years, and 16 percent who were 65 years of age or older (Table 24).

In 2000, 84 percent of Richland County residents age 25 and older were high school graduates. Seventeen percent attained a bachelor's degree or higher (Table 26).

Housing in Richland County was affordable in 2000, with a housing affordability index of 228 for the county (Table 27).

#### 4.2.12 Roosevelt County

The population of Roosevelt County was projected to increase to 10,860 in 2010 and increase to 11,510 in 2020 (Table 21). Data obtained in 2000 indicated that 11 percent of Roosevelt County residents 5 years and older lived in a different county in 1995 (Table 22).

The gender distribution had a 50 percent male/female split in 2000 (Table 2).

In 2000, the racial makeup of the county was 41 percent White, less than 1 percent Black or African American, 56 percent Native American, less than 1 percent Asian, less than 1 percent Pacific Islander, less than 1 percent from other races, and 3 percent from two or more races (Table 25). One percent of the population was Hispanic or Latino of any race.

There were 3,581 households in Roosevelt County in 2000, 41 percent of which had children under the age of 18 living with them; 47 percent were married couples living together; 19 percent had a female householder with no husband present; and 27 percent were non-families (Table 23). Approximately 24 percent of all households consisted of individuals, and 10 percent had someone living alone who was 65 years of age or older. The average household size was three people, and the average family size was three people.

The ages of the county's population were widely distributed, with 35 percent under the age of 18, 8 percent from 18 to 24 years, 26 percent from 25 to 44 years, 20 percent from 45 to 64 years, and 12 percent who were 65 years of age or older (Table 24).

In 2000, 81 percent of Roosevelt County residents age 25 and older were high school graduates. Sixteen percent attained a bachelor's degree or higher (Table 26).

Housing in Roosevelt County was affordable in 2000, with a housing affordability index of 208 for the county (Table 27).

#### 4.2.13 Rosebud County

The population of Rosebud County was projected to increase to 10,390 in 2010 and increase to 11,600 in 2020 (Table 21). Data obtained in 2000 indicated that 19 percent of Rosebud County residents 5 years and older lived in a different county in 1995 (Table 22). The gender distribution had a 50 percent male/female split in 2000 (Table 2).

In 2000, the racial makeup of the county was 64 percent White, less than 1 percent Black or African American, 32 percent Native American, less than 1 percent Asian, less than 1 percent Pacific Islander, 1 percent from other races, and 2 percent from two or more races (Table 25). Two percent of the population was Hispanic or Latino of any race.

There were 3,307 households in Rosebud County in 2000, 39 percent of which had children under the age of 18 living with them; 56 percent were married couples living together; 12 percent had a female householder with no husband present; and 27 percent were non-families (Table 23). Approximately 24 percent of all households consisted of individuals, and 8 percent had someone living alone who was 65 years of age or older. The average household size was three people, and the average family size was three people.

The ages of the county's population were widely distributed, with 34 percent under the age of 18, 7 percent from 18 to 24 years, 26 percent from 25 to 44 years, 25 percent from 45 to 64 years, and 9 percent who were 65 years of age or older (Table 24).

In 2000, 84 percent of Rosebud County residents age 25 and older were high school graduates. Eighteen percent attained a bachelor's degree or higher (Table 26).

Housing in Rosebud County was affordable in 2000, with a housing affordability index of 221 for the county (Table 27).

#### 4.2.14 Sheridan County

The population of Sheridan County was projected to decrease to 3,690 in 2010 and decrease to 3,680 in 2020 (Table 21). Data obtained in 2000 indicated that 12 percent of Sheridan County residents 5 years and older lived in a different county in 1995 (Table 22). The gender distribution had a 50 percent male/female split in 2000 (Table 2).

In 2000, the racial makeup of the county was 97 percent White, less than 1 percent Black or African American, 1 percent Native American, less than 1 percent Asian, less than 1 percent

Pacific Islander, less than 1 percent from other races, and 1 percent from two or more races (Table 25). One percent of the population was Hispanic or Latino of any race.

There were 1,741 households in Sheridan County in 2000, 27 percent of which had children under the age of 18 living with them; 58 percent were married couples living together; 5 percent had a female householder with no husband present; and 35 percent were non-families (Table 23). Approximately 32 percent of all households consisted of individuals, and 17 percent had someone living alone who was 65 years of age or older. The average household size was two people, and the average family size was three people.

The ages of the county's population were widely distributed, with 23 percent under the age of 18, 5 percent from 18 to 24 years, 22 percent from 25 to 44 years, 27 percent from 45 to 64 years, and 24 percent who were 65 years of age or older (Table 24).

In 2000, 82 percent of Sheridan County residents age 25 and older were high school graduates. Eighteen percent attained a bachelor's degree or higher (Table 26).

Housing in Sheridan County was affordable in 2000, with a housing affordability index of 273 for the county (Table 27).

#### 4.2.15 Treasure County

The population of Treasure County was projected to decrease to 760 in 2010 and increase to 780 in 2020 (Table 21). Data obtained in 2000 indicated that 22 percent of Treasure County residents 5 years and older lived in a different county in 1995 (Table 22). The gender distribution had a 51 percent/49 percent male/female split in 2000 (Table 2).

In 2000, the racial makeup of the county was 96 percent White, less than 1 percent Black or African American, 2 percent Native American, less than 1 percent Asian, less than 1 percent Pacific Islander, 1 percent from other races, and 1 percent from two or more races (Table 25).

Two percent of the population was Hispanic or Latino of any race.

There were 357 households in Treasure County in 2000, 31 percent of which had children under the age of 18 living with them; 59 percent were married couples living together; 4 percent had a female householder with no husband present; and 32 percent were non-families (Table 23). Approximately 30 percent of all households consisted of individuals, and 15 percent had someone living alone who was 65 years of age or older. The average household size was two people, and the average family size was three people.

The ages of the county's population were widely distributed, with 28 percent under the age of 18, 5 percent from 18 to 24 years, 23 percent from 25 to 44 years, 27 percent from 45 to 64 years, and 17 percent who were 65 years of age or older (Table 24).

In 2000, 86 percent of Treasure County residents age 25 and older were high school graduates. Eighteen percent attained a bachelor's degree or higher (Table 26).

Housing in Treasure County was affordable in 2000, with a housing affordability index of 298 for the county (Table 27).

#### 4.2.16 Valley County

The population of Valley County was projected to decrease to 6,850 in 2010 and decrease to 6,730 in 2020 (Table 21). Data obtained in 2000 indicated that 17 percent of Valley County residents 5 years and older lived in a different county in 1995 (Table 22). The gender distribution had a 50 percent male/female split in 2000 (Table 2).

In 2000, the racial makeup of the county was 88 percent White, less than 1 percent Black or African American, 9 percent Native American, less than 1 percent Asian, less than 1 percent Pacific Islander, less than 1 percent from other races, and 2 percent from two or more races (Table 25). One percent of the population was Hispanic or Latino of any race.

There were 3,150 households in Valley County in 2000, 30 percent of which had children under the age of 18 living with them; 56 percent were married couples living together; 8 percent had a female householder with no husband present; and 32 percent were non-families (Table 23). Approximately 29 percent of all households consisted of individuals, and 12 percent had someone living alone who was 65 years of age or older. The average household size was two people, and the average family size was two people.

The ages of the county's population were widely distributed, with 25 percent under the age of 18, 6 percent from 18 to 24 years, 24 percent from 25 to 44 years, 26 percent from 45 to 64 years, and 19 percent who were 65 years of age or older (Table 24).

In 2000, 84 percent of Valley County residents age 25 and older were high school graduates. Sixteen percent attained a bachelor's degree or higher (Table 26).

Housing in Valley County was affordable in 2000, with a housing affordability index of 233 for the county (Table 27).

#### 4.2.17 Wibaux County

The population of Wibaux County was projected to decrease to 1,030 in 2010 and increase to 1,070 in 2020 (Table 21). Data obtained in 2000 indicated that 18 percent of Wibaux County residents 5 years and older lived in a different county in 1995 (Table 22). The gender distribution had a 48 percent/52 percent male/female split in 2000 (Table 2).

In 2000, the racial makeup of the county was 98 percent White, less than 1 percent Black or African American, 1 percent Native American, less than 1 percent Asian, less than 1 percent Pacific Islander, less than 1 percent from other races, and 1 percent from two or more races (Table 25). Less than 1 percent of the population was Hispanic or Latino of any race.

There were 421 households in Wibaux County in 2000, 29 percent of which had children under the age of 18 living with them; 58 percent were married couples living together; 6 percent had a

female householder with no husband present; and 32 percent were non-families (Table 23). Approximately 29 percent of all households consisted of individuals, and 16 percent had someone living alone who was 65 years of age or older. The average household size was two people, and the average family size was three people.

The ages of the county's population were widely distributed, with 26 percent under the age of 18, 6 percent from 18 to 24 years, 23 percent from 25 to 44 years, 24 percent from 45 to 64 years, and 22 percent who were 65 years of age or older (Table 24).

In 2000, 77 percent of Wibaux County residents age 25 and older were high school graduates. Sixteen percent attained a bachelor's degree or higher (Table 26).

Housing in Wibaux County was affordable in 2000, with a housing affordability index of 323 for the county (Table 27).

### 4.3 Affected Groups

The following discussion of affected groups is intended to facilitate the assessment of social impacts. This simplified discussion of affected groups' values and attitudes is based on previous studies and surveys. Some people may fall into more than one affected group, and their values and attitudes may change over time. This section may be revised based on scoping comments.

#### 4.3.1 Livestock Permittees

Ranching is an important part of the history, culture, and economy of the study area. In 1997 there were 6,609 farms in the study area (farms refer to both farms and ranches) (Table 16). Many livestock operators in the field office area graze livestock on public lands.

Many challenges face ranchers today, including changes in federal regulations, economic issues, and changing land use. Ranchers and permittees may face increasingly stressful social situations as they try to balance their traditional lifestyles with demands from government agencies and other public land users such as recreationists.

#### 4.3.2 Recreationists

Recreation is a component of most lifestyles in the study area. According to University of Montana research, Montanans take more leisure trips than the United States average (Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks 2003). The substantial recreational opportunities for fishing, hunting, hiking, horseback riding, OHV use, and sightseeing are important elements of the overall quality of life for study area residents.

Recreationists represent very diverse groups of people, and changes in recreation management can affect people who engage in the various activities differently based on need and preference.

Recreationists tend to organize into interest groups; most recreational activities have at least one organization that advocates for their particular activity. In addition to local recreation use, some destinations in the study area attract visitors from other areas of the United States for fishing, hunting, and other recreational activities.

The Montana State Outdoor Recreation Plan outlined key issues based on statewide surveys and other research (Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks 2003). Some of the following key issues are relevant to BLM-administered lands in the study area and include the following:

- A need for continued access to, and maintenance of, rural and backcountry trails and use areas for hiking, biking, skiing, equine, and motorized (OHV, snowmobile) recreation
- A need for increased miles and maintenance of urban and rural trails and access for water-based recreation
- Insufficient quality and quantity of recreation facilities for youth

Outfitters and guides use recreational opportunities in the study area for economic gain. Some outfitters and guides are ranchers or farmers who use recreation as a means to achieve economic diversification. Others operate full-time or seasonal outfitter businesses and employ some local residents as guides. There are

also permanent full-time independent guides who have their own clients, both local and from outside the region. Approximately 48 outfitters and guides are permitted by the Miles City Field Office. Most of the BLM permits are for hunting, campouts, and wagon trains, but outfitters and guides can request permits for a variety of other uses. A fee is assessed for commercial permits (L. Coates, personal communication, January 27, 2005).

Some residents do not want permits to be issued to outfitters and guides because they believe that the permits unfairly deny access to the general public (Ladd Coates, personal communication, January 27, 2005). These residents note that only those who can afford to hire an outfitter or guide can use BLM-administered land that has been permitted for outfitters and guides.

#### 4.3.3 Individuals and Groups who give a High Priority to Resource Protection

Various individuals and groups at the local, regional, and national levels are interested in how the BLM manages the public's lands. Many of their concerns regard wildlife, water quality, and visual quality. They value BLM-administered land for wildlife, recreation, education, scenic qualities, wilderness, and open space, among other reasons. One concern for these individuals and groups, as described in a Billings Gazette article, is that oil and gas company bonds are often not high enough to cover the cost of reclamation, and eventually require taxpayer dollars for cleanup of oil and gas lease sites (Billings Gazette 2004).

#### 4.3.4 Individuals and Groups who give a High Priority to Resource Use

Many individuals and groups are concerned about limitations being put on the availability of public lands for commercial uses, such as livestock grazing and mineral/energy development. They indicate that the public lands have to be managed to be as productive as possible and that the survival of local economies and local communities depend upon these industries (BLM 2003b).

#### 4.3.5 Communities

The study area population is mainly rural, with strong ties to the land and many small towns and communities. Indian Tribes are considered part of the affected groups, but are discussed under the Environmental Justice section (see Section 5.2). Community social structures in the study area are relatively informal and unstructured. Community residents know almost everyone else in the community. These communities have developed a slow-paced and intensely personal lifestyle characterized by conservatism, frugality, and concern for and respect of others, as well as a sense of independence and responsibility and strong ties to other members of the community (Fitzpatrick 1983). Communities of this sort may change drastically upon experiencing an influx of outsiders with different values and norms of behavior.

Small rural communities can be tied to the BLM and public lands in a variety of ways. Local businesses and governments depend upon BLM employees to support businesses and public services. Use of public lands for recreation activities, livestock grazing, minerals/energy development, and other activities can provide economic and leisure-time opportunities. Information from discussions with area residents indicates that concern about local economic conditions was predominant among the participants (BLM 2003b). Area residents were concerned about young people and families leaving the area to seek employment elsewhere, declining farm populations, local businesses closing, and lack of funds for public services because of the declining tax base. Some participants thought that the BLM should consider economic impacts to local communities when making land use decisions and should manage lands with high recreational potential more aggressively because communities could benefit economically.

Some residents of rural communities may feel reluctance toward short-term developments, such as mineral/energy developments, that could alter their lifestyle (BLM 2003b). Many, especially those in ranching and irrigated agriculture, are concerned with water quality and quantity, as well as soil quality. This sometimes leads to tension between the desire for new

development to support the often stagnant rural economies and the concern that such development could harm the environment and the traditional lifestyle qualities.

Concerning minerals and energy development projects, those who own land or would otherwise benefit from a project tend to favor cautious and prudent development to realize the economic benefits such projects may bring to them and the local economies (BLM 2003b). Some who do not stand to benefit directly also favor responsible development, believing that the economic benefits are needed to support the local economy. Other individuals are concerned that the quality of their lives and the environment will be adversely affected, that local benefits will be minor, and that most of the benefits will accrue to outsiders.

Areas where energy resources are developed often see an influx of people from other areas

(BLM 2003b). Many of these people see their employment as temporary, expect to move on to other areas, and do not play an integral part in community affairs. Long-term local residents often resent these outsiders, while at the same time realizing some economic benefits from the business and service demands of these newcomers.

A small but growing population includes professionals, craftspeople, retirees, and others who have moved to small towns to enjoy the slower pace of life and various amenities (BLM 2003b). While the forested areas of western Montana tend to attract more of this group than eastern Montana, these people are present in the study area as well. They may oppose development proposals that appear to jeopardize the quality of their new lifestyles.



## 5.0 Environmental Justice

### 5.1 Guidance

Executive Order 12898, Environmental Justice, requires that federal agencies identify and address any disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of their programs, policies, and activities on minority populations and low-income populations. The BLM has recently developed an instruction memorandum containing guidance for evaluating environmental justice issues in land use planning (Instruction Memorandum 2002-164).

Environmental justice refers to the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of people of all races, cultures, and incomes with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, programs, and policies. Black/African American, Hispanic, Asian and Pacific Islander, American Indian, Eskimo, Aleut, and other non-white persons are defined as minority populations by the Interagency Working Group convened under the auspices of the Executive Order. Low-income populations are defined as persons living below the poverty level based on total income of \$13,359 or lower for a family household of four based on the 2000 Census.

### 5.2 Tribes

The primary environmental justice populations in the study area are American Indians living in and near the Fort Peck, Crow, and Northern Cheyenne Indian Reservations. High concentrations of American Indians are found in the three counties where reservations are located. American Indians/Alaskan Natives comprise 60 percent of the population in Big Horn County, 56 percent in Roosevelt County, and 32 percent in Rosebud County (Table 25).

Higher percentages of residents on the Fort Peck, Crow, and Northern Cheyenne Indian Reservations were low-income compared to the study area in 1999. The study area had

20 percent of the population living below the poverty level, while the Fort Peck, Crow, and Northern Cheyenne Indian Reservations had 35 percent, 31 percent, and 46 percent, respectively, living below the poverty level. Unemployment rates for the reservations were also higher than the study area. The study area had an average unemployment rate of 4 percent in 2001. The Fort Peck and Crow Indian Reservations had unemployment rates of 63 percent and 66 percent, respectively, in 2001 (Montana Department of Labor and Industry 2001). The unemployment rate on the Northern Cheyenne Indian Reservation varies from 40 to 60 percent (Fisher 2005). Of the counties, only Big Horn County had a relatively high unemployment rate (17 percent) in 2001, possibly because 50 percent of Big Horn County is made up of the Crow and Northern Cheyenne Indian Reservations.

Members of the tribes use resources on public lands for economic and cultural (and to a lesser extent subsistence) purposes. Descriptions of each Tribe in the study area are provided below.

#### 5.2.1 Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes of Fort Peck

The Fort Peck Indian Reservation, established in 1888, has a land area of more than 2 million acres and is located in the northern part of the study area (Montana State Library 2000). It covers portions of Roosevelt, Valley, Daniels, and Sheridan Counties. The Assiniboine and Sioux tribes are the resident Tribes at the reservation. In 2000, the population on the Fort Peck Indian Reservation was 10,321 people (Table 28). Of the total population in 2000, 62 percent were Indian. The median age in 2000 was 30 years, and the population density was 3 people per square mile (Sonoran Institute 2004). Fifteen percent of the reservation residents had a college degree or greater.

Per capita income on the reservation in 2000 was \$10,691 (Sonoran Institute 2004). The unemployment rate on the reservation in 2001

was 63 percent, (Montana Department of Labor and Industry 2001). In 1999, 35 percent of individuals had income that was below the poverty line (Sonoran Institute 2004).

Fort Peck's economic base is cattle ranching, farming, and mineral development (Mni Sose Intertribal Water Rights Coalition 2005). The largest employers are the Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes, Fort Peck Community College, Bureau of Indian Affairs, and the Indian Health Service. Fort Peck was the first United States tribe to develop jointly and wholly owned oil wells. Various enterprises, including metal fabrication and production sewing, are housed in an industrial park in Poplar, and they are among the largest employers in Montana. Other industries, including an electronics manufacturer, are located on the reservation. Businesses such as stores, gas stations, restaurants, and arts and handcrafts also employ people on the reservation. Fort Peck Community College, a public two-year Tribally controlled community college, is chartered by the government of the Fort Peck Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes.

Powwows, rodeos, and museums attract tourists to the Fort Peck Indian Reservation (Fort Peck Tribes 2005). Six annual powwows held on the reservation offer a display of tribal traditions and crafts. The reservation hosts two rodeos a year, the Wolf Point Stampede and the Poplar Wild West Days. Three museums (Fort Peck Tribal Museum, Poplar Museum, and Roosevelt County Museum) offer information about the Fort Peck Tribes and Roosevelt County.

According to the Mni Sose Intertribal Water Rights Coalition community profile on the Fort Peck Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes, problems with water quality and inadequate supply occur on the reservation (Mni Sose Intertribal Water Rights Coalition 2005). This condition has had a detrimental effect on health and quality of life, as well as deterring economic growth. Many residents currently depend on poorly constructed or low capacity individual wells. These sources are often contaminated with bacteria or undesirable minerals, provide an inadequate quantity of water, and are costly to maintain and operate. Many people wish to return to their family lands or relocate to rural areas to raise their families, but are limited by the

unavailability of water. Agriculture is the primary industry on the Fort Peck Indian Reservation, but lack of an adequate water supply has also reduced livestock production on the reservation.

### 5.2.2 Crow Tribe

The Crow Indian Reservation, established in 1851, has a land area of more than 2 million acres and is located on the southwestern border of the study area (Montana State Library 2000). It encompasses the Little Big Horn Battlefield. The Crow Tribe is the resident tribe at the reservation. In 2000, the total population was 6,894 people, an 8 percent increase since 1990 (Table 28). Of the total population, 75 percent were Indian in 2000, up 1 percent since 1990. In 2000, the median age on the reservation was 28 years, compared to 38 years for Montana as a whole. Approximately 14 percent of the reservation residents had a college degree or higher (Sonoran Institute 2004). The population density was two people per square mile.

Per capita income on the reservation in 1999 was \$9,440 (Sonoran Institute 2004). The unemployment rate on the reservation in 2001 was 66 percent, the highest unemployment rate of any of the tribes in the study area (Montana Department of Labor and Industry 2001). In 1999, 31 percent of individuals had income that was below the poverty line (Sonoran Institute 2004). According to the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the reservation has a shortage of adequate housing (BLM 2003c).

The tribal and federal governments are the largest employers on the Crow Indian Reservation (BLM 2003c). Agriculture, education, and retail trade are the largest industry sectors. Agriculture has been the historic base of the reservation economy. Agricultural crops include livestock, wheat, barley, oats, corn, sugar beets, alfalfa, and hay. Natural resources (land, water, coal, oil and gas, timber, and sand and gravel) also contribute to the employment base and income on the reservation. The Absaloka Mine is located within 5 miles of the reservation's northern boundary and employs between 40 and 75 Crow Tribal members. In 1985, 20 companies had 709 oil and gas leases with the Crow Tribe.

The reservation has 36,000 acres of commercial forest in the Wolf and Pryor Mountains, and timber units are generally leased to non-Indian interests for harvesting.

The Crow Tribe hosts one of the largest powwows held in the United States (BLM 2003c). Festivities include competition dancing, drumming, singing, and food and craft concessions. Because of its proximity to the Battle of the Little Big Horn National Monument, the Tribe reenacts the battle every year.

The Crow Indian Reservation provides dispersed outdoor recreation, including hunting, fishing, picnicking, camping, hiking, horseback riding, snowmobiling, and off-road vehicle use (BLM 2003c). Yellowtail Dam at Big Horn Canyon provides fishing, water sports, and camping. Non-tribal members are not allowed to hunt on the reservation.

### 5.2.3 Northern Cheyenne Tribe

The Northern Cheyenne Indian Reservation, established in 1884, has a land area of more than 445,000 acres (Montana State Library 2000). The reservation is located in the southwestern part of the Miles City Field Office planning area. The Northern Cheyenne Tribe is the resident tribe at the reservation. In 2000, the total population was 4,470 people, a 14 percent increase since 1990 (Table 28). Of the total population, 90 percent were Indian in 1990 and 2000. In 2000, the median age on the reservation was 23 years, compared to 38 years for Montana as a whole. The population density was six people per square mile (excluding water) (Sonoran Institute 2004). Approximately 13 percent of the reservation residents had a college degree or higher. Chief Dull Knife Community College is located on the Northern Cheyenne Indian Reservation.

Per capita income at the reservation in 1999 was \$7,736 (Sonoran Institute 2004). The unemployment rate fluctuates between 40 percent in the summer and 60 percent in the winter (Fisher 2005). In 1999, 46 percent of

individuals had income that was below the poverty line (Sonoran Institute 2004). There is a housing shortage on the Northern Cheyenne Indian Reservation (BLM 2003c).

Reservation lands are used for farming and ranching activities (Fisher 2005). Farm crops include hay, wheat, barley, and small grains (BLM 2003c). In addition to the agricultural-based income, the tribe has developed several other routes of income. These include construction, timber sales, small business, light manufacturing, casino gaming, and other services. The Bureau of Indian Affairs, Indian Health Service, and schools on or near the reservation employ the greatest number of reservation residents (Fisher 2005). The Tribal Forestry Department has employed many people on the reservation during the summer to fight forest fires.

Although there are mineral resources on the reservation, the Northern Cheyenne Tribe has chosen not to pursue mineral development. However, the Tribe is considering other energy development, such as wind power (Fisher 2005).

The Tribe holds an annual Fourth of July powwow, which is widely attended (BLM 2003c). A cultural center houses artifacts and cultural information (Fisher 2005).

The Northern Cheyenne Indian Reservation provides dispersed outdoor recreation, including hunting, fishing, hiking, horseback riding, and berry gathering (BLM 2003c). Crazy Head Springs, Lost Leg Lake, and other sites provide fishing, camping, and picnicking. Unrestricted hunting is limited to tribal members.

## 5.3 Low-Income Populations

In 1999, 20 percent of the persons living in the study area had incomes below the poverty level (Table 8). The largest populations of low-income persons were in Roosevelt County (32 percent), Big Horn County (29 percent), and Rosebud County (22 percent).



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APPENDIX A

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SOCIOECONOMIC TABLES

*Shared Lands ~  
Shared Plan*



**TABLE 1  
LAND OWNERSHIP IN 2002**

<b>County</b>		<b>BLM</b>	<b>Local<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Private</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>Tribal/BIA</b>	<b>Other<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>Other (Federal)<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>Total Acres in Planning Area</b>
Big Horn	Acres	27,085	3,336	359,213	35,479	203,592	7,389	0	636,095 <sup>4</sup>
	Percent of County Total (%)	4%	1%	56%	6%	32%	1%	0%	
Carter	Acres	503,615	327	90,438	1,395,990	0	144,203	8,313	2,142,886
	Percent of County Total (%)	24%	0%	4%	65%	0%	7%	0%	
Custer	Acres	336,376	0	1,934,918	149,866	0	6,445	9	2,427,614
	Percent of County Total (%)	14%	0%	80%	6%	0%	0%	0%	
Daniels	Acres	202	0	547,061	220,766	144,486	431	0	912,945
	Percent of County Total (%)	0%	0%	60%	24%	16%	0%	0%	
Dawson	Acres	61,589	12,284	1,354,636	88,033	0	6,457	2,189	1,525,190
	Percent of County Total (%)	4%	1%	89%	6%	0%	0%	0%	
Fallon	Acres	117,453	235	849,531	67,390		1,816	2,286	1,038,711
	Percent of County Total (%)	11%	0%	82%	6%	0%	0%	0%	
Garfield	Acres	502,191	0	2,093,388	166,632	0	115,495	224,629	3,102,335
	Percent of County Total (%)	16%	0%	67%	5%	0%	4%	7%	
McCone	Acres	200,775	0	1,347,640	94,015	435	25,947	48,133	1,716,945
	Percent of County Total (%)	12%	0%	78%	5%	0%	2%	3%	
Powder River	Acres	258,865	0	1,367,620	141,182	0	2,540	340,437	2,110,643
	Percent of County Total (%)	12%	0%	65%	7%	0%	0%	16%	
Prairie	Acres	449,183	0	585,229	76,812	0	3,961	30	1,115,214
	Percent of County Total (%)	40%	0%	52%	7%	0%	0%	0%	
Richland	Acres	52,265	2,969	1,196,385	81,632	17	12,307	331	1,345,906
	Percent of County Total (%)	4%	0%	89%	6%	0%	1%	0%	
Roosevelt	Acres	3,759	0	365,553	19,275	1,117,265	9,372	1,297	1,516,521
	Percent of County Total (%)	0%	0%	24%	1%	74%	1%	0%	
Rosebud	Acres	234,303	0	2,457,274	177,912	241,728	10,198	95,688	3,217,103
	Percent of County Total (%)	7%	0%	76%	6%	8%	0%	3%	
Sheridan	Acres	269	0	881,897	44,757	124,003	22,640	18,449	1,092,015
	Percent of County Total (%)	0%	0%	81%	4%	11%	2%	2%	
Treasure	Acres	825	1,324	585,480	36,968	1,588	3,637	0	629,822
	Percent of County Total (%)	0%	0%	93%	6%	0%	1%	0%	
Valley	Acres	0	0	566	1,216	716,642	2,749	0	721,173 <sup>5</sup>
	Percent of County Total (%)	0%	0%	0%	0%	99%	0%	0%	
Wilboux	Acres	26,949	0	509,160	32,890	532	0	122	569,654
	Percent of County Total (%)	5%	0%	89%	6%	0%	0%	0%	
<b>Planning Area Total</b>									<b>25,820,770</b>

Notes: <sup>1</sup>Local – State, county, city, wildlife, park, outdoor, and recreation lands

<sup>2</sup>Other – No ownership data available

<sup>3</sup>Other federal – Military, Bureau of Reclamation, National Forest, National Grassland, National Park, and National Wildlife Refuge lands.

<sup>4</sup>Big Horn County has 3,209,365 total acres. Only 636,095 acres of Big Horn County are in the Miles City Field Office Planning Area.

<sup>5</sup>Valley County has 3,239,558 total acres. Only 721,173 acres of Valley County are in the Miles City Field Office Planning Area.

Source: BLM (2002)

**TABLE 2  
POPULATION BY AGE AND SEX IN 2000**

<b>County/Area</b>	<b>Total Population 2000</b>	<b>Total Population 1990</b>	<b>10-Year Change</b>	<b>Percent Change (%)</b>	<b>2000 Male Population</b>	<b>2000 Female Population</b>	<b>Male/Female Split (%)</b>
Big Horn	12,671	11,337	1,334	12	6,249	6,422	49 / 51
Carter	1,360	1,503	(143)	-10	662	698	49 / 51
Custer	11,696	11,697	(1)	0	5,724	5,972	49 / 51
Daniels	2,017	2,266	(249)	-11	988	1,029	49 / 51
Dawson	9,059	9,505	(446)	-5	4,490	4,569	50 / 50
Fallon	2,837	3,103	(266)	-9	1,434	1,403	51 / 49
Garfield	1,279	1,589	(310)	-20	660	619	52 / 48
McCone	1,977	2,276	(299)	-13	987	990	50 / 50
Powder River	1,858	2,090	(232)	-11	916	942	49 / 51
Prairie	1,199	1,383	(184)	-13	619	580	52 / 48
Richland	9,667	10,716	(1,049)	-10	4,801	4,866	50 / 50
Roosevelt	10,620	10,999	(379)	-3	5,264	5,356	50 / 50
Rosebud	9,383	10,505	(1,122)	-11	4,712	4,671	50 / 50
Sheridan	4,105	4,732	(627)	-13	2,039	2,066	50 / 50
Treasure	861	874	(13)	-1	439	422	51 / 49
Valley	7,675	8,239	(564)	-7	3,802	3,873	50 / 50
Wibaux	1,068	1,191	(123)	-10	513	555	48 / 52
Study Area	89,332	94,005	(4,673)	-5	44,299	45,033	50 / 50
Montana	902,195	799,065	103,130	13	449,480	452,715	50 / 50
United States	281,421,906	248,709,873	32,712,033	13	138,053,563	143,368,343	49 / 51

Notes: Data for Big Horn and Valley Counties represent the whole of the counties, including areas outside of the planning area. Numbers have been rounded.

Source: Sonoran Institute (2004)

**TABLE 3  
PERSONS PER SQUARE MILE IN 2000**

<b>County/Area</b>	<b>Persons per Square Mile</b>
Big Horn	2.5
Carter	0.4
Custer	3.1
Daniels	1.4
Dawson	3.8
Fallon	1.8
Garfield	0.3
McCone	0.7
Powder River	0.6
Prairie	0.7
Richland	4.6
Roosevelt	4.5
Rosebud	1.9
Sheridan	2.4
Treasure	0.9
Valley	1.6
Wibaux	1.2
Study Area	1.9
Montana	6.2
United States	79.6

Note: Data for Big Horn and Valley Counties represent the whole of the counties, including the areas outside of the planning area.

Source: United States Census Bureau (2000a)

**TABLE 4**  
**EMPLOYMENT STATUS IN 1999**

<b>County/Area</b>	<b>In Labor Force</b>	<b>In Armed Forces</b>	<b>Civilian</b>
Big Horn	5,431	15	5,416
Carter	747	0	747
Custer	5,869	0	5,869
Daniels	933	1	932
Dawson	4,559	0	4,559
Fallon	1,477	3	1,474
Garfield	675	0	675
McCone	1,034	0	1,034
Powder River	961	2	959
Prairie	600	0	600
Richland	4,755	0	4,755
Roosevelt	4,594	5	4,589
Rosebud	4,288	0	4,288
Sheridan	1,949	3	1,946
Treasure	448	0	448
Valley	3,714	2	3,712
Wibaux	529	0	529
Study Area	42,563	31	42,532
Montana	458,306	3,619	454,687
United States	138,820,935	1,152,137	137,668,798

Notes: Data for Big Horn and Valley Counties represent the whole of the counties, including the areas outside of the planning area.  
Numbers have been rounded.

Source: United States Census Bureau (2000b)

**TABLE 5  
COUNTY EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY, 1970 TO 2000**

Trade	Big Horn	Carter	Custer	Daniels	Dawson	Fallon	Garfield	McCone	Powder River	Prairie	Richland	Roosevelt	Rosebud	Sheridan	Treasure	Valley	Wibaux	Study Area	Montana	United States	
<b>Farm &amp; Agricultural</b>																					
1970	1,097	556	702	737	879	499	509	800	632	373	1,162	1,048	746	1,028	272	1,201	278	12,519	39,464	4,486,300	
2000	1,012	468	623	560	651	441	389	475	444	246	916	819	659	681	200	954	226	9,764	42,527	5,269,800	
1970-2000 % Change	-8	-16	-11	-24	-26	-12	-24	-41	-30	-34	-21	-22	-12	-34	-26	-21	-19	-22	8	17	
Industry Share of Total (% 2000)	16	50	9	33	12	23	45	39	39	36	15	15	11	28	47	20	34	18	8	3	
<b>Mining</b>																					
1970	77	8	79	5	280	156	0	5	108	0	68	70	53	64	5	12	26	1,016	7,295	743,900	
2000	468	13	6	2	149	126	26	5	20	0	311	47	508	39	0	38	0	1,758	6,567	795,400	
1970-2000 % Change	508	63	-92	-60	-47	-19	N/A	0	-81	N/A	357	-33	858	-39	-100	217	-100	73	-10	7	
Industry Share of Total (% 2000)	7	1	0	0	3	7	3	0	2	0	5	1	8	2	0	1	0	3	1	0	
<b>Manufacturing (including forest products)</b>																					
1970	340	0	130	4	116	43	0	0	0	0	398	61	226	13	5	673	0	2,009	25,397	19,687,400	
2000	72	19	183	25	63	27	15	5	18	16	418	94	150	52	0	102	12	1,217	29,219	19,106,900	
1970-2000 % Change	-79	N/A	41	525	-46	-37	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	5	54	-34	300	-100	-85	N/A	-37	15	-3	
Industry Share of Total (% 2000)	1	2	3	1	1	1	2	0	2	2	7	2	2	2	0	2	2	2	5	11	
<b>Transportation &amp; Public Utilities</b>																					
1970	123	35	410	51	855	170	14	105	49	0	301	134	730	113	25	341	19	3,475	18,962	4,865,500	
2000	134	37	373	179	616	126	32	112	65	32	354	161	821	77	28	231	37	3,415	27,464	8,247,100	
1970-2000 % Change	9	6	-9	251	-28	-26	129	7	33	N/A	18	20	12	-32	12	-32	95	-2	45	70	
Industry Share of Total (% 2000)	2	4	5	10	11	7	4	9	6	5	6	3	13	3	7	5	6	6	5	5	
<b>Wholesale Trade</b>																					
1970	32	12	202	45	142	40	5	5	25	13	108	125	21	89	-1	77	0	940	10,777	4,172,700	
2000	83	5	195	124	185	59	5	76	13	12	211	116	7	58	13	168	0	1,330	20,440	7,584,900	
1970-2000 % Change	159	-58	-3	176	30	48	0	1420	-48	-8	95	-7	-67	-35	-1400	118	N/A	41	90	82	
Industry Share of Total (% 2000)	1	1	3	7	3	3	1	6	1	2	3	2	0	2	3	4	0	2	4	5	

**TABLE 5  
COUNTY EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY, 1970 TO 2000 (CONTINUED)**

Trade	Big Horn	Carter	Custer	Daniels	Dawson	Fallon	Garfield	McCone	Powder River	Prairie	Richland	Roosevelt	Rosebud	Sheridan	Treasure	Valley	Wibaux	Study Area	Montana	United States
<b>Retail Trade</b>																				
1970	591	89	1,144	234	867	285	123	199	124	115	774	771	313	485	66	912	74	7,166	49,874	13,698,800
2000	702	70	1,552	165	946	329	90	141	126	79	1,134	780	672	420	52	801	90	8,149	105,934	27,344,100
1970-2000 % Change	19	-21	36	-29	9	15	-27	-29	2	-31	47	1	115	-13	-21	-12	22	14	112	100
Industry Share of Total (% 2000)	11	7	22	10	17	17	10	12	11	12	18	14	11	17	12	17	14	15	19	16
<b>Finance, Insurance, &amp; Real Estate</b>																				
1970	120	36	310	63	284	79	40	26	78	43	291	176	46	141	19	208	38	1,998	18,662	6,125,400
2000	229	23	474	143	285	73	31	33	23	23	277	216	170	87	5	267	13	2,372	37,461	13,495,100
1970-2000 % Change	91	-36	53	127	0	-8	-23	27	-71	-47	-5	23	270	-38	-74	28	-66	19	101	120
Industry Share of Total (% 2000)	4	2	7	8	5	4	4	3	2	3	4	4	3	4	1	6	2	4	7	8
<b>Services (health, legal, business, others)</b>																				
1970	776	113	1,103	241	939	254	79	100	120	82	756	1,181	0	344	37	625	49	6,799	53,987	17,029,800
2000	2,089	136	2,034	255	1,584	368	120	131	128	93	1,449	1,898	2,052	529	38	1,187	145	14,236	171,889	53,276,700
1970-2000 % Change	169	20	84	6	69	45	52	31	7	13	92	61	N/A	54	3	90	196	109	218	213
Industry Share of Total (% 2000)	33	14	29	15	28	19	14	11	11	14	23	35	33	22	9	25	22	27	31	32
<b>Construction</b>																				
1970	102	25	365	35	316	66	23	46	53	26	205	71	62	92	24	246	20	1,777	15,029	4,398,800
2000	196	19	353	43	171	83	18	48	41	5	349	111	105	81	5	184	26	1,838	35,288	9,604,300
1970-2000 % Change	92	-24	-3	23	-46	26	-22	4	-23	-81	70	56	69	-12	-79	-25	30	3	135	118
Industry Share of Total (% 2000)	3	2	5	3	3	4	2	4	4	1	6	2	2	3	1	4	4	3	6	6
<b>Government</b>																				
1970	750	143	1,035	206	639	226	173	196	165	189	546	835	452	311	66	1,060	129	7,121	61,602	16,073,000
2000	1,329	151	1,187	213	955	288	145	183	253	179	779	1,143	1,025	398	87	763	112	9,190	85,811	22,741,000
1970-2000 % Change	77	6	15	3	49	27	-16	-7	53	-5	43	37	127	28	32	-28	-13	29	39	41
Industry Share of Total (% 2000)	21	16	17	12	17	15	17	15	22	26	13	21	17	16	20	16	17	17	15	14
<b>Total Employment</b>																				
1970	4,008	1,017	5,480	1,621	5,317	1,818	966	1,482	1,354	841	4,609	4,472	2,649	2,680	518	5,355	633	44,820	301,049	91,281,600
2000	6,314	941	6,980	1,709	5,605	1,920	871	1,209	1,131	685	6,198	5,385	6,169	2,422	428	4,695	661	53,323	562,600	167,465,300

Notes: Employed civilian population, 16 years and over.  
Data for Big Horn and Valley Counties represent the whole of the counties, including the areas outside of the planning area.  
Numbers have been rounded.

Source: Sonoran Institute (2004)

**TABLE 6  
LOCATION QUOTIENTS, 2003 TO 2004<sup>1</sup>**

Trade	Big Horn <sup>2</sup>	Carter	Custer	Daniels	Dawson	Fallon	Garfield	McCone	Powder River	Prairie	Richland	Roosevelt	Rosebud	Sheridan	Treasure	Valley <sup>2</sup>	Wibaux
Agriculture <sup>3</sup>	7.30	24.23	4.02	16.19	6.04	11.54	20.14	19.62	17.99	18.11	6.64	7.34	5.17	14.48	21.48	10.06	18.80
Mining	24.65	0	C	0	8.98	22.06	0	C	C	0	9.87	C	26.57	4.50	0	2.96	0
Construction	0.25	C	0.76	0.41	0.42	1.50	C	0.73	0.60	C	1.55	0.25	0.79	0.35	0.75	0.72	C
Manufacturing	C	0	0.16	0.14	0.12	C	C	C	C	C	0.81	0.26	0.02	0.19	0	0.26	0
Wholesale Trade	0.40	C	0.73	2.06	1.26	0.65	C	2.59	C	C	0.79	0.49	0.05	0.82	C	0.76	C
Retail Trade	0.70	0.83	1.27	0.61	1.28	1.20	1.52	0.84	1.26	0.77	1.10	0.96	0.68	1.08	0.55	1.02	C
Transportation & Warehousing	0.30	C	1.11	C	1.14	1.78	1.49	1.94	0.62	0	1.35	0.45	C	C	0.91	0.23	C
Utilities	C	C	C	C	C	C	0	C	0	C	3.10	C	C	C	C	2.48	C
Information	0.28	C	0.79	7.02	1.18	0.76	C	C	0.54	C	0.54	0.51	0.49	0.67	C	0.86	C
Finance & Insurance	0.50	C	1.14	0.97	0.62	0.84	C	0.91	0.93	1.40	0.50	0.30	0.23	0.92	C	1.05	0.70
Real Estate	0.31	C	0.30	0	0.56	0.30	0	C	C	C	0.46	0.14	0.15	C	0	0.50	0
Professional, Scientific, & Technical Services	0.33	0.50	0.39	0.15	0.24	0.33	0	C	0.39	0.49	0.68	0.11	0.15	0.33	C	0.42	C
Management of Companies & Enterprises	0	0	0.18	0	C	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	C	0
Administrative Support & Waste Management Services	C	0	0.13	C	0.28	C	0	0	0	0	0.12	0.15	0.08	0.15	0	0.24	0
Educational Services	C	0	0.33	0	0	0	0	0	C	0	C	0	C	0	0	C	0
Health Care & Social Asst.	0.51	C	1.61	1.32	1.47	C	C	C	C	0	1.36	0.96	0.45	2.00	C	2.00	C
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	1.16	C	1.80	C	1.56	C	0	C	2.25	0	0.75	0.81	2.79	C	0	0.39	0
Accommodation & Food Services	0.84	1.33	1.75	0.58	1.52	0.96	0.82	0.43	1.26	C	1.34	0.95	0.76	1.47	C	1.35	0.96
Other Services (except Public Administration)	0.30	0	0.86	0.70	0.82	1.02	C	0.78	0.91	0.85	0.74	0.44	0.33	0.65	C	0.82	0
Public Administration	5.64	3.85	2.13	2.63	1.67	2.43	3.66	3.54	3.09	4.66	1.41	5.14	4.65	2.43	3.77	2.18	4.44
Local Government Education	3.24	3.26	1.25	2.43	1.71	1.91	3.17	1.85	2.59	3.11	1.54	3.80	2.17	2.29	2.70	1.83	3.11

Notes: <sup>1</sup> Based on annual average employment, July 1, 2003, through June 30, 2004.  
<sup>2</sup> Data for Big Horn and Valley Counties represent the whole of the counties, including the areas outside of the planning area.  
<sup>3</sup> Location quotient using Bureau of Economic Analysis data.  
C = Confidential.

Source: Eldredge (2005)

**TABLE 7**  
**UNEMPLOYMENT, 1990 TO 2001**

<b>County/Area</b>	<b>1990 (%)</b>	<b>1994 (%)</b>	<b>1998 (%)</b>	<b>2001 (%)</b>
Big Horn	13	13	9	17
Carter	2	3	3	2
Custer	5	4	5	4
Daniels	3	2	3	3
Dawson	4	3	4	3
Fallon	3	3	3	3
Garfield	2	3	4	2
McCone	3	3	4	2
Powder River	2	2	3	2
Prairie	4	4	6	5
Richland	6	5	6	5
Roosevelt	11	9	9	7
Rosebud	7	7	8	7
Sheridan	3	2	5	3
Treasure	4	3	5	3
Valley	4	4	4	4
Wibaux	3	5	6	3
Study Area Average	5	4	5	4
Montana	6	5	6	5
United States	6	6	5	5

Note: Numbers have been rounded.

Data for Big Horn and Valley Counties represent the whole of the counties, including the areas outside of the planning area.

Source: Sonoran Institute (2004)

**TABLE 8**  
**INDIVIDUALS LIVING BELOW THE POVERTY LEVEL IN 1999<sup>1</sup>**

<b>County/Area<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>Individuals Below the Poverty Level</b>	<b>Total Population<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>Percent of Total Population (%)</b>
Big Horn	3,632	12,524	29
Carter	242	1,344	18
Custer	1,700	11,333	15
Daniels	334	1,965	17
Dawson	1,285	8,567	15
Fallon	349	2,685	13
Garfield	272	1,295	21
McCone	331	1,947	17
Powder River	235	1,808	13
Prairie	202	1,188	17
Richland	1,161	9,675	12
Roosevelt	3,358	10,494	32
Rosebud	2,063	9,377	22
Sheridan	602	4,013	15
Treasure	125	833	15
Valley	1,026	7,329	14
Wibaux	157	1,047	15
Study Area	17,074	87,424	20
Montana	128,355	855,700	15
United States	33,899,812	282,498,433	12

Notes: <sup>1</sup> Numbers have been rounded.

<sup>2</sup> Data for Big Horn and Valley Counties represent the whole of the counties, including the areas outside of the planning area

<sup>3</sup> Population for which below-poverty status is determined.

Source: Sonoran Institute (2004)

**TABLE 9  
PERSONAL INCOME BY INDUSTRY, 1990 to 2000**

Trade	Big Horn	Carter	Custer	Daniels	Dawson	Fallon	Garfield	McCone	Powder River	Prairie	Richland	Roosevelt	Rosebud	Sheridan	Treasure	Valley	Wibaux	Study Area	Montana	United States	
<b>Farm &amp; Agricultural</b>																					
1990	24,823	2,680	6,124	5,325	5,517	3,368	6,858	5,449	2,513	3,646	12,739	-269	11,871	3,611	4,001	3,008	1,764	103,028	577,300	87,034,000	
2000	7,133	2,836	1,994	12,071	4,027	2,862	4,545	7,073	1,670	3,505	10,816	16,785	3,020	15,565	1,761	17,435	2,257	115,354	387,800	90,614,000	
1990-2000 % Change	-71	6	-67	127	-27	-15	-34	30	-34	-4	-15	-6,345	-75	331	-56	480	28	12	-33	4	
Industry Share of Total (% 2000)	6	28	1	34	4	7	36	31	11	31	9	16	2	30	27	17	27	11	3	1	
<b>Mining</b>																					
1990	37,655	53	1,709	459	3,995	6,926	-89	82	1,398	33	14,452	2,051	33,148	1,460	33	235	122	103,720	329,000	48,038,000	
2000	27,217	-309	216	-11	5,529	6,810	0	250	669	0	11,581	2,312	31,429	1,122	0	1,517	0	88,332	297,200	51,584,000	
1990-2000 % Change	-28	-687	-87	-102	38	-2	-100	206	-52	-100	-20	13	-5	-23	-100	547	-100	-15	-10	7	
Industry Share of Total (% 2000)	21	-3	0	0	5	18	0	1	5	0	9	2	20	2	0	1	0	8	2	1	
<b>Construction</b>																					
1990	4,037	506	7,523	353	3,771	2,210	556	514	833	123	5,663	2,573	10,269	1,207	585	4,943	84	45,748	564,600	272,719,000	
2000	3,659	239	9,940	502	4,123	2,697	437	537	498	152	7,422	1,725	1,840	2,057	220	4,067	238	40,352	992,300	363,480,000	
1990-2000 % Change	-9	-53	32	42	9	22	-21	5	-40	24	31	-33	-82	70	-62	-18	182	-12	76	33	
Industry Share of Total (% 2000)	3	2	7	1	4	7	3	2	3	1	6	2	1	4	3	4	3	4	7	6	
<b>Manufacturing (including Forest Products)</b>																					
1990	1,217	605	2,736	183	1,926	374	98	0	274	485	11,236	10,864	3,090	767	0	2,256	516	36,627	873,700	876,719,000	
2000	1,154	539	3,988	452	1,398	800	176	0	185	407	11,160	1,561	3,239	1,075	30	2,130	406	28,699	942,700	958,415,000	
1990-2000 % Change	-5	-11	46	147	-27	114	79	N/A	-32	-16	-1	-86	5	40	N/A	-6	-21	-22	8	9	
Industry Share of Total (% 2000)	1	5	3	1	1	2	1	0	1	4	9	1	2	2	0	2	5	3	7	16	
<b>Transportation, Public Utilities, &amp; Wholesale Trade</b>																					
1990	6,041	1,598	20,437	4,734	34,086	8,009	920	4,879	1,964	1,636	18,124	9,656	51,750	6,538	1,203	19,569	399	191,542	1,502,600	591,771,000	
2000	6,544	2,026	17,491	10,234	34,422	7,389	1,503	7,168	1,900	1,404	18,515	8,455	47,754	5,779	1,910	18,639	1,014	192,147	1,692,200	790,808,000	
1990-2000 % Change	8	27	-14	116	1	-8	63	47	-3	-14	2	-12	-8	-12	59	-5	154	0	13	34	
Industry Share of Total (% 2000)	5	20	12	29	30	19	12	31	13	13	15	8	31	11	29	18	12	18	13	13	

**TABLE 9**  
**PERSONAL INCOME BY INDUSTRY, 1990 to 2000 (CONTINUED)**

Trade	Big Horn	Carter	Custer	Daniels	Dawson	Fallon	Garfield	McCone	Powder River	Prairie	Richland	Roosevelt	Rosebud	Sheridan	Treasure	Valley	Wibaux	Study Area	Montana	United States
<b>Retail Trade</b>																				
1990	7,820	884	17,540	2,531	11,165	3,455	1,405	1,964	1,791	785	12,646	10,453	7,713	5,192	1,040	9,888	655	96,925	1,236,200	423,624,000
2000	8,060	619	20,257	1,574	11,732	3,257	1,056	1,264	1,839	694	13,141	10,546	6,473	3,857	288	9,594	585	94,836	1,527,300	529,301,000
1990-2000 % Change	3	-30	15	-38	5	-6	-25	-36	3	-12	4	1	-16	-26	-72	-3	-11	-2	24	25
Industry Share of Total (% 2000)	6	6	14	4	10	9	8	5	13	6	10	10	4	7	4	9	7	9	12	9
<b>Consumer Services</b>																				
1990	2,128	232	5,835	884	4,900	1,083	300	277	1,080	662	3,285	2,192	3,692	1,082	200	4,556	196	32,583	490,100	201,711,000
2000	4,238	279	8,233	1,316	4,910	1,695	318	393	1,390	354	3,620	2,962	4,536	1,570	181	4,901	157	41,051	701,400	270,939,000
1990-2000 % Change	99	20	41	49	0	57	6	42	29	-47	10	35	23	45	-10	8	-20	26	43	34
Industry Share of Total (% 2000)	3	3	6	4	4	4	3	2	9	3	3	3	3	3	3	5	2	4	5	4
<b>Producer Services</b>																				
1990	11,907	725	13,004	1,830	6,888	2,889	1,222	767	1,013	672	11,405	14,116	12,075	4,269	738	6,820	565	90,905	1,214,100	830,179,000
2000	7,799	690	16,683	1,646	9,203	2,023	833	903	899	893	12,994	14,527	9,984	4,116	137	8,243	428	92,002	2,082,900	1,463,667,000
1990-2000 % Change	-35	-5	28	-10	34	-30	-32	18	-11	33	14	3	-17	-4	-81	21	-24	1	72	76
Industry Share of Total (% 2000)	6	7	11	5	8	5	7	4	6	8	10	14	6	8	2	8	5	8	16	24
<b>Social Services</b>																				
1990	6,799	393	15,975	1,245	8,951	1,689	394	1,235	353	241	9,995	8,095	12,200	3,979	33	10,071	665	82,311	1,133,700	442,491,000
2000	9,504	551	25,349	1,532	13,276	3,191	352	1,241	131	107	14,448	9,839	13,557	4,526	25	11,979	682	110,288	1,683,900	592,746,000
1990-2000 % Change	40	40	59	23	48	89	-10	1	-63	-56	45	22	11	14	-24	19	3	34	49	34
Industry Share of Total (% 2000)	7	5	17	4	12	8	3	5	1	1	12	9	9	9	0	12	8	10	13	10
<b>Government Services</b>																				
1990	40,839	2,610	49,997	5,705	24,548	8,860	3,337	4,485	5,468	3,412	20,167	31,539	30,592	11,488	1,859	23,983	2,826	271,715	2,499,900	829,909,000
2000	52,216	2,782	44,760	5,718	26,380	7,568	3,468	4,263	5,514	3,706	21,763	38,163	33,451	11,868	1,990	24,250	2,663	290,523	2,939,400	945,052,000
1990-2000 % Change	28	7	-10	0	7	-15	4	-5	1	9	8	21	9	3	7	1	-6	7	18	14
Industry Share of Total (% 2000)	41	27	30	16	23	20	27	18	38	33	17	36	22	23	30	24	32	27	22	16

Notes: Employed civilian population, 16 years and over.  
All figures are in thousands of 2000 dollars.  
Data for Big Horn and Valley Counties represent the whole of the counties, including the areas outside of the planning area.  
Numbers have been rounded.

Source: Sonoran Institute (2004)

**TABLE 10  
INCOME YEAR IN 1999**

<b>County/Area</b>	<b>1970 Income/Job (\$)</b>	<b>1999 Income/Job (\$)</b>	<b>Percent Change (%)</b>	<b>1999 Median Household Income (\$)</b>	<b>1999 Median Family Income (\$)</b>
Big Horn	22,774	22,701	0	27,684	31,095
Carter	25,328	11,347	-55	26,313	32,262
Custer	28,293	21,422	-24	30,000	38,779
Daniels	30,024	20,916	-30	27,306	35,722
Dawson	26,691	20,806	-22	31,393	38,455
Fallon	28,196	20,555	-27	29,944	38,636
Garfield	32,239	14,835	-54	25,917	31,111
McCone	27,002	19,089	-29	29,718	35,887
Powder River	26,056	12,982	-50	28,398	34,671
Prairie	18,454	16,619	-10	25,451	32,292
Richland	27,703	20,288	-27	32,110	39,348
Roosevelt	26,314	21,234	-19	24,834	27,833
Rosebud	24,441	26,847	10	35,898	41,631
Sheridan	29,172	21,793	-25	29,518	35,345
Treasure	35,567	15,199	-57	29,830	34,219
Valley	30,898	22,015	-29	30,979	39,044
Wibaux	26,784	13,201	-51	28,224	34,265
Study Area	27,408	18,932	-31	29,030	35,329
Montana	28,897	23,653	-18	33,024	40,487
United States	32,403	36,313	12	41,994	50,046

Notes: Adjusted for inflation in 2000 dollars.  
 Data for Big Horn and Valley Counties represent the whole of the counties, including the areas outside of the planning area.  
 Numbers have been rounded.

Source: Sonoran Institute (2004)

**TABLE 11  
PER CAPITA INCOME, 1970 TO 2000**

<b>County/Area</b>	<b>1970 (\$)</b>	<b>1980 (\$)</b>	<b>1990 (\$)</b>	<b>2000 (\$)</b>	<b>Percent Change (%) (1970-2000)</b>
Big Horn	13,412	17,266	14,291	14,832	11
Carter	17,282	15,442	16,717	17,930	4
Custer	16,989	22,119	21,174	22,040	30
Daniels	21,347	17,770	21,149	29,033	36
Dawson	15,720	21,028	18,455	20,532	31
Fallon	14,721	22,896	18,640	21,117	43
Garfield	20,846	16,129	17,810	19,916	-4
McCone	16,971	16,169	16,207	19,801	17
Powder River	15,622	18,906	17,007	17,332	11
Prairie	13,749	17,291	19,109	21,809	59
Richland	16,310	19,868	18,225	21,227	30
Roosevelt	14,699	15,172	14,275	17,795	21
Rosebud	13,563	16,447	19,812	21,125	56
Sheridan	17,664	17,868	18,700	24,028	36
Treasure	20,726	22,121	20,848	17,506	-16
Valley	17,495	17,481	19,383	24,078	38
Wibaux	16,017	16,089	15,225	17,338	8
Study area Average	16,655	18,239	18,060	20,438	23
Montana	16,088	19,107	20,443	22,518	10
United States	18,174	21,280	25,787	29,469	14

Notes: Adjusted for inflation in 2000 dollars.  
 Data for Big Horn and Valley Counties represent the whole of the counties, including the areas outside of the planning area.  
 Numbers have been rounded.

Source: Sonoran Institute (2004)

**TABLE 12**  
**SOURCES OF INCOME IN 1999**

County/Area		Wage	Self-Employment	Interest, Dividends, or Net Rentals	Social Security	Supplemental Security	Public Assistance	Retirement	Other Types of Income	Total
<b>Big Horn</b>	Income (\$)	98,011,300	8,999,800	4,397,800	8,104,900	885,500	852,600	4,994,500	4,749,900	130,996,300
	Percent Total (%)	75	7	3	6	1	1	4	4	100
<b>Carter</b>	Income (\$)	8,011,500	5,106,500	1,370,600	1,676,400	47,500	21,500	550,500	746,800	17,531,300
	Percent Total (%)	46	29	8	10	0	0	3	4	100
<b>Custer</b>	Income (\$)	117,047,400	16,138,000	14,760,900	17,528,300	1,101,000	141,200	8,348,500	5,348,600	180,413,900
	Percent Total (%)	65	9	8	10	1	0	5	3	100
<b>Daniels</b>	Income (\$)	15,602,300	5,354,400	4,063,000	3,948,300	227,900	34,000	1,531,600	915,100	31,676,600
	Percent Total (%)	49	17	13	12	1	0	5	3	100
<b>Dawson</b>	Income (\$)	92,210,200	8,223,900	7,778,300	13,132,500	803,000	174,400	7,576,300	4,061,000	133,959,600
	Percent Total (%)	69	6	6	10	1	0	6	3	100
<b>Fallon</b>	Income (\$)	26,286,200	7,280,400	2,881,400	4,285,100	246,300	51,300	1,340,000	779,800	43,150,500
	Percent Total (%)	61	17	7	10	1	0	3	2	100
<b>Garfield</b>	Income (\$)	8,751,500	4,088,700	1,220,800	1,836,700	47,100	8,400	689,200	709,400	17,351,800
	Percent Total (%)	50	24	7	11	0	0	4	4	100
<b>McCone</b>	Income (\$)	15,964,500	6,099,800	3,038,000	2,977,400	157,300	27,300	943,200	845,300	30,052,800
	Percent Total (%)	53	20	10	10	1	0	3	3	100
<b>Powder River</b>	Income (\$)	15,006,400	7,177,100	1,410,100	2,662,600	36,300	7,500	760,100	579,700	27,639,800
	Percent Total (%)	54	26	5	10	0	0	3	2	100
<b>Prairie</b>	Income (\$)	10,197,100	2,560,800	619,900	2,191,900	135,300	1,900	569,100	699,300	16,975,300
	Percent Total (%)	60	15	4	13	1	0	3	4	100
<b>Richland</b>	Income (\$)	98,715,800	17,133,500	17,377,500	12,979,900	867,700	137,800	4,612,600	3,106,500	154,931,300
	Percent Total (%)	64	11	11	8	1	0	3	2	100

**TABLE 12  
SOURCES OF INCOME (CONTINUED)**

County/Area		Wage	Self-Employment	Interest, Dividends, or Net Rentals	Social Security	Supplemental Security	Public Assistance	Retirement	Other Types of Income	Total
<b>Roosevelt</b>	Income (\$)	78,290,100	13,000,400	6,044,700	9,632,900	1,003,600	2,284,500	4,361,100	6,291,700	117,909,000
	Percent Total (%)	66	11	5	8	1	2	4	5	103
<b>Rosebud</b>	Income (\$)	104,632,800	10,357,400	6,232,400	7,687,700	757,400	437,900	4,275,900	3,045,500	137,427,000
	Percent Total (%)	76	8	5	6	1	0	3	2	100
<b>Sheridan</b>	Income (\$)	33,024,600	9,021,600	8,718,000	7,746,300	258,200	88,800	4,486,400	2,242,000	65,585,900
	Percent Total (%)	50	14	13	12	0	0	7	3	100
<b>Treasure</b>	Income (\$)	7,811,200	1,581,800	1,011,500	1,286,800	62,200	6,800	362,900	249,700	12,372,900
	Percent Total (%)	63	13	8	10	1	0	3	2	100
<b>Valley</b>	Income (\$)	75,870,600	12,431,000	9,215,800	13,065,400	483,900	265,600	6,433,300	3,776,300	121,541,900
	Percent Total (%)	62	10	8	11	0	0	5	3	100
<b>Wibaux</b>	Income (\$)	8,589,200	2,905,400	2,748,900	1,669,200	102,400	19,600	474,100	607,700	17,116,500
	Percent Total (%)	50	17	16	10	1	0	3	4	100
<b>Study Area</b>	Income (\$)	814,022,700	137,460,500	92,889,600	112,412,300	7,222,600	4,561,100	52,309,300	38,754,300	1,256,632,400
	Percent Total (%)	65	11	7	9	1	0	4	3	100
<b>Montana</b>	Income (\$)	10,088,651,200	1,430,003,200	1,271,656,400	1,101,087,300	78,599,300	28,789,800	887,307,400	363,852,500	15,249,947,100
	Percent Total (%)	66	9	8	7	1	0	6	2	100
<b>United States</b>	Income (\$)	4,458,674,697,700	350,579,185,100	404,235,117,300	306,588,309,500	29,170,444,600	11,003,766,800	306,842,031,500	111,012,986,000	5,978,106,538,500
	Percent Total (%)	75	6	7	5	0	0	5	2	100

Notes: Income does not include capital gains.  
Data for Big Horn and Valley Counties represent the whole of the counties, including the areas outside of the planning area.  
Numbers have been rounded.

Source: Sonoran Institute (2004)

**TABLE 13**  
**PAYMENT IN LIEU OF TAXES IN 2003**

<b>County/Area</b>	<b>Total Paid Fiscal Year 2003 (\$)</b>
Big Horn	55,158
Carter	110,473
Custer	445,354
Daniels	267
Dawson	86,319
Fallon	109,765
Garfield	111,887
McCone	163,478
Powder River	141,855
Prairie	82,275
Richland	70,679
Roosevelt	5,528
Rosebud	433,077
Sheridan	2,412
Treasure	979
Valley	524,356
Wibaux	35,481
Study Area (\$)	2,379,343
Percent of Study Area (%)	14
Montana (\$)	16,874,448

Notes: Data for Big Horn and Valley Counties represent the whole of the counties, including the areas outside of the planning area.  
Numbers have been rounded.

Source: BLM (2003d)

**TABLE 14**  
**FEDERAL MINERAL ROYALTY DISTRIBUTIONS TO COUNTIES IN**  
**FISCAL YEAR 2004**

<b>County/Area</b>	<b>Total Distribution by County (\$)</b>
Big Horn	1,177,670
Carter	40,624
Custer	7,273
Daniels	64
Dawson	83,638
Fallon	525,396
Garfield	16
McCone	805
Powder River	54,937
Prairie	29,964
Richland	64,055
Roosevelt	4,326
Rosebud	722,316
Sheridan	3,489
Treasure	38,101
Valley	45,171
Wibaux	82,770
Study Area (\$)	2,880,614

Note: Data for Big Horn and Valley Counties represent the whole of the counties, including the areas outside of the planning area.  
Numbers have been rounded.

Source: Montana Association of Counties (2004)

**TABLE 15**  
**ASSESSED PROPERTY VALUATIONS IN 2002<sup>1</sup>**

<b>County/Area</b>	<b>Natural Resources<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>Agriculture<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>Residential<sup>4</sup></b>	<b>Commercial<sup>5</sup></b>	<b>Personal Property<sup>6</sup></b>	<b>Utilities<sup>7</sup></b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>(\$)</b>	<b>(\$)</b>	<b>(\$)</b>	<b>(\$)</b>	<b>(\$)</b>	<b>(\$)</b>	<b>(\$)</b>
Big Horn	-	123,653,444	92,119,356	98,421,375	159,187,346	35,852,975	509,234,496
Carter	4,885,548	70,663,209	16,161,004	1,654,190	17,921,372	17,009,769	128,295,092
Custer	-	84,515,702	163,690,671	67,262,883	59,213,862	20,536,059	395,219,177
Daniels	-	67,486,377	29,738,731	6,968,911	30,969,494	4,184,129	139,347,642
Dawson	-	94,833,441	113,460,645	34,417,146	85,495,813	42,120,404	370,327,449
Fallon	-	44,096,546	33,010,377	10,710,242	77,241,495	54,184,445	219,243,105
Garfield	-	99,999,295	20,768,529	2,072,570	18,691,064	-	141,531,458
McCone	-	102,660,320	28,438,647	4,501,746	38,070,044	1,532,658	175,203,415
Powder River	-	64,727,581	25,336,222	3,755,034	22,895,277	2,624,340	119,338,454
Prairie	-	35,487,768	14,202,331	2,488,109	30,893,327	5,428,364	88,499,899
Richland	-	107,279,662	126,110,187	56,129,221	111,981,601	34,602,363	436,103,034
Roosevelt	-	103,232,626	67,967,402	26,003,614	90,542,661	130,802,593	418,548,896
Rosebud	-	107,470,227	78,110,111	58,861,312	373,148,466	1,059,394,207	1,676,984,323
Sheridan	-	98,047,382	52,148,572	14,775,164	63,872,742	6,798,900	235,642,760
Treasure	-	29,932,286	10,885,864	1,910,876	25,156,972	14,850,043	82,736,041
Valley	-	137,328,721	110,824,277	38,003,801	76,190,516	110,525,586	472,872,901
Wibaux	-	33,483,627	12,759,554	1,963,746	21,304,733	6,877,849	76,389,509
Study Area	4,885,548	1,404,898,214	995,732,480	429,899,940	1,302,776,786	1,547,324,684	5,685,517,652
Percent of Study Area (%)	0	25	18	8	23	27	100
Montana	355,642,431	5,984,370,165	24,221,081,258	8,728,866,141	6,307,304,932	3,853,597,623	49,450,862,550

Notes:

- <sup>1</sup> 2004 assessed market value from the Montana Department of Revenue
  - <sup>2</sup> Natural resources: Class 1 (Net Proceeds) and Class 2 (Gross Proceeds)
  - <sup>3</sup> Agriculture: Class 3 (Agricultural Land) and Class 10 (Forest Land)
  - <sup>4</sup> Residential: Class 4 (Residential)
  - <sup>5</sup> Commercial: Class 4 (Commercial)
  - <sup>6</sup> Personal Property: Class 5 (Pollution Control), Class 8 (Business Equipment), and Class 12 (Railroad/Airline)
  - <sup>7</sup> Utilities: Class 7 (non-centrally assessed utilities), Class 9 (centrally assessed utilities), Class 13 (telcom/elect generation)
- Data for Big Horn and Valley Counties represent the whole of the counties, including the areas outside of the planning area. Numbers have been rounded.

Source: Montana Department of Revenue (2002)

**TABLE 16  
FARMS IN 1997**

<b>County/Area</b>	<b>Number of Farms</b>	<b>Total Acreage (in 1,000)</b>	<b>Average Size of Farm (Acres)</b>	<b>Farm Earnings (per \$1,000)</b>	<b>Total Value of Farm Products Sold (1n 1,000) (\$)</b>	<b>Average Value of Farm Products Sold per Farm (\$)</b>	<b>Percent from Crops<sup>1</sup> (%)</b>	<b>Percent from Livestock &amp; Poultry<sup>2</sup> (%)</b>
Big Horn	530	2,770	5,227	3,254	61,126	115,332	45	55
Carter	305	1,589	5,211	-1,808	26,991	88,495	14	86
Custer	405	1,898	4,685	-2,667	32,586	80,459	22	78
Daniels	363	765	2,106	4,520	25,644	70,645	79	21
Dawson	502	1,417	2,823	2,687	34,748	69,219	59	41
Fallon	309	953	3,084	909	20,407	66,042	27	73
Garfield	244	2,163	8,866	917	32,030	131,270	31	70
McCone	430	1,313	3,053	2,136	28,698	66,740	62	38
Powder River	297	1,559	5,250	-690	27,293	91,896	12	89
Prairie	158	613	3,879	1,512	20,292	128,430	31	69
Richland	571	1,215	2,127	3,629	54,075	94,702	65	35
Roosevelt	609	1,430	2,348	8,252	38,812	63,731	77	23
Rosebud	362	2,681	7,406	-53	37,666	104,050	23	77
Sheridan	581	1,001	1,723	4,911	35,949	61,874	81	19
Treasure	110	606	5,505	509	17,567	159,700	36	65
Valley	655	1,787	2,728	7,883	47,785	72,954	54	46
Wibaux	178	475	2,671	771	10,562	59,337	40	60
Study Area	6,609	24,235	4,041	36,672	552,231	89,699	45	55
Montana	24,279	58,608	2,414	172,663	1,870,732	77,051	48	52
United States	1,911,859	931,795	487	45,698,000	196,864,649	102,970	50	50

Notes: <sup>1</sup> Includes nursery and greenhouse crops

<sup>2</sup> Includes related products

Data for Big Horn and Valley Counties represent the whole of the counties, including the areas outside of the planning area. Numbers have been rounded.

Source: United States Census Bureau (2000c)

**TABLE 17**  
**LIVESTOCK INVENTORY IN 2004**

County/Area	Sheep & Lambs	Cattle and Calves
Big Horn	0	87,000
Carter	39,600	53,000
Custer	5,300	84,000
Daniels	0	14,600
Dawson	6,400	45,000
Fallon	2,300	45,000
Garfield	33,000	62,000
McCone	6,000	33,000
Powder River	11,500	62,000
Prairie	3,800	35,000
Richland	7,000	59,000
Roosevelt	4,000	32,400
Rosebud	2,000	78,000
Sheridan	0	28,000
Treasure	0	23,000
Valley	6,000	88,000
Wibaux	1,500	21,000
Study Area	128,400	850,000
Percent of State (%)	43	35
Montana	300,000	2,400,000

Notes: Data for Big Horn and Valley Counties represent the whole of the counties, including the areas outside of the planning area.  
Numbers have been rounded.

Source: United States Census Bureau (2000c)

**TABLE 18  
GRAZING ALLOTMENTS**

County	Number of Allotments	Number of AUMs	Total Allotment Acreage	Acreage of Allotments on BLM-Administered Lands
Big Horn	38	5,329	303,936	25,645
Carter	261	97,342	1,651,891	498,075
Custer	180	60,552	1,884,834	334,868
Daniels	1	20	1,572	38
Dawson	76	12,279	441,985	60,673
Fallon	154	26,556	631,043	113,227
Garfield	205	91,616	2,090,760	494,058
McCone	138	39,993	708,179	199,579
Powder River	220	52,773	1,302,400	253,976
Prairie	143	104,138	940,048	447,048
Richland	96	11,802	297,279	50,590
Roosevelt	13	1,262	33,502	3,624
Rosebud	139	35,045	1,960,745	227,906
Sheridan	3	50	2,587	140
Treasure	4	369	47,453	710
Wibaux	27	5,436	167,162	26,930
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,699</b>	<b>544,564</b>	<b>12,465,374</b>	<b>2,737,086</b>

Note: To prevent double-counting (and to present values that are consistent with those in the grazing analysis) allotment and AUM numbers were treated proportionally.

Source: BLM (2005c)

**TABLE 19**  
**OIL, GAS, AND COAL PRODUCTION IN THE PLANNING AREA, 1986 TO 2003**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Total Oil Production (Barrels)</b>	<b>Oil Production on Federal Lands (Barrels)</b>	<b>Total Gas Production (Thousands of Cubic Feet)</b>	<b>Gas Production on Federal Lands (Thousands of Cubic Feet)</b>	<b>Total Coal Production (Short Tons)</b>
1986	21,875,709	3,056,802	21,873,723	859,599	31,437,310
1987	20,329,073	3,057,492	20,327,086	894,496	32,212,780
1988	18,853,543	3,127,828	18,851,555	1,212,318	35,372,166
1989	16,996,457	2,847,281	16,994,468	1,038,097	33,449,876
1990	15,953,538	2,786,509	15,951,548	848,237	32,735,607
1991	15,691,660	2,984,850	15,689,669	952,811	33,633,418
1992	14,769,939	2,817,741	14,767,947	1,221,688	35,145,449
1993	14,068,594	2,458,816	14,066,601	1,247,029	32,407,064
1994	13,417,156	2,264,180	13,415,162	1,162,029	36,892,799
1995	13,634,881	2,218,152	13,632,886	1,233,397	34,759,413
1996	13,442,246	2,299,690	13,440,250	1,526,226	32,765,596
1997	13,536,557	2,111,654	13,534,560	1,740,363	33,441,642
1998	14,215,186	2,249,031	14,213,188	2,157,565	35,508,181
1999	13,016,426	2,178,438	13,014,427	2,880,102	35,102,181
2000	13,260,755	2,238,584	13,258,755	3,585,969	32,811,507
2001	13,982,740	2,562,396	13,980,739	3,995,979	32,748,500
2002	14,884,631	2,576,413	14,882,629	4,660,929	31,801,014
2003	17,351,853	2,810,333	17,349,850	6,100,201	30,585,347

Sources: Bohm (2005), Montana Department of Environmental Quality (2003)

**TABLE 20**  
**VISITOR DAYS AND PARTICIPANTS IN THE MILES CITY FIELD OFFICE BY ACTIVITY, 1999 TO 2004**

Activity	1999		2000		2001		2002		2003		2004		Percentage Change 1999 to 2004	
	Participants	Visitor Days	Participants	Visitor Days										
Archery	1,826	2,564	1,826	2,564	2,004	2,857	2,004	2,857	2,155	3,119	2,156	3,135	18	22
Bicycling -Mountain	2,848	496	3,288	532	3,153	546	3,197	550	3,598	606	3,616	613	27	24
Camping	8,696	12,749	8,776	12,754	9,271	13,466	9,306	13,519	9,883	14,320	10,030	14,945	15	17
Driving for Pleasure	9,039	3,768	9,139	3,785	9,669	3,995	9,771	4,013	10,434	4,194	10,153	4,092	12	9
Environmental Education	150	25	150	25	150	25	150	25	200	33	200	33	33	32
Fishing - Freshwater	6,746	1,714	8,848	2,243	7,207	1,829	7,656	1,931	8,366	2,047	8,406	2,138	25	25
Gathering Non-Commercial Products	70	23	70	23	70	23	70	23	70	23	84	28	20	22
Hiking/Walking/Running	4,214	692	4,546	720	4,742	780	4,792	784	5,440	879	5,516	890	31	29
Horseback Riding	1,636	273	1,636	273	1,847	308	1,847	308	2,043	340	2,064	344	26	26
Hunting - Big Game	55,301	29,578	55,347	29,389	59,149	32,303	59,524	32,513	61,372	33,750	60,417	33,510	9	13
Hunting - Small Game	1,022	170	1,022	170	1,154	192	1,154	192	1,277	213	1,290	215	26	26
Hunting - Upland Bird	13,025	4,499	13,056	4,514	14,114	4,938	14,116	4,941	14,977	5,306	14,928	5,306	15	18
Hunting - Waterfowl	829	144	829	144	869	151	870	151	918	161	900	158	9	10
Nature Study	8,013	1,304	8,080	1,310	8,430	1,374	8,435	1,374	8,859	1,430	8,667	1,400	8	7
OHV - ATV	5,814	969	5,814	969	6,281	1,047	6,282	1,047	6,645	1,108	6,580	1,097	13	13
OHV - Cars/Trucks/SUVs	1,022	341	1,022	341	1,154	385	1,154	385	1,277	426	1,290	430	26	26
OHV - Motorcycle	2,045	682	2,045	682	2,309	770	2,509	786	3,554	935	4,580	1,027	124	51
Photography	95	8	105	9	95	8	105	9	160	13	140	12	47	50
Picnicking	8,709	1,456	8,708	1,456	9,115	1,523	8,993	1,513	9,492	1,597	9,350	1,580	7	9
Power Boating	N/A	N/A	200	33	N/A	N/A	85	10	544	91	193	32	-4	-3
Rockhounding/ Mineral Collection	1,254	240	1,364	249	1,294	243	1,306	244	1,395	255	1,486	299	19	25
Row/Float/Raft	2,270	302	2,510	355	2,534	324	2,639	339	3,122	386	3,000	402	32	33
Snowmobiling	958	168	958	160	1,025	171	1,026	171	1,074	179	1,058	176	10	5
Social Gathering/ Festival/Concert	120	100	120	100	120	100	120	100	123	102	156	130	30	30
Target Practice	9,583	969	9,583	969	10,253	1,047	10,256	1,047	10,737	1,108	10,580	1,097	10	13
Trapping	754	126	754	126	794	132	795	132	818	136	800	133	6	6
Viewing - Cultural Sites	N/A	N/A	108	9	N/A	N/A	248	21	165	14	102	8	-6	-11
Viewing - Other	N/A	N/A	10	1	N/A	N/A	10	1	20	2	15	1	50	0
Viewing - Scenery/Landscapes	N/A	20	3	NA	NA									
Viewing - Wildlife	12,900	1,724	12,950	1,728	13,991	1,851	14,014	1,853	14,921	1,950	14,807	1,928	15	12
Viewing - Interpretive Exhibit	75	13	75	13	75	13	75	13	77	13	98	16	31	23

Notes: N/A – Not available.  
Numbers have been rounded.

Source: BLM (2005b)

**TABLE 21**  
**POPULATION PROJECTIONS, 2010 and 2020**

<b>County/Area</b>	<b>1990 Census</b>	<b>2000 Census</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2020</b>
Big Horn	11,337	12,671	13,750	14,990
Carter	1,503	1,360	1,310	1,330
Custer	11,697	11,696	11,500	12,040
Daniels	2,266	2,017	1,840	1,840
Dawson	9,505	9,059	8,590	8,760
Fallon	3,103	2,837	2,590	2,580
Garfield	1,589	1,279	1,160	1,160
McCone	2,276	1,977	1,780	1,770
Powder River	2,090	1,858	1,720	1,710
Prairie	1,383	1,199	1,130	1,120
Richland	10,716	9,667	9,440	9,900
Roosevelt	10,999	10,620	10,860	11,510
Rosebud	10,505	9,383	10,390	11,600
Sheridan	4,732	4,105	3,690	3,680
Treasure	874	861	760	780
Valley	8,239	7,675	6,850	6,730
Wibaux	1,191	1,068	1,030	1,070
Study Area	94,005	89,332	88,390	92,570
Percent Change (%)		-5	-1	5
Montana	799,065	902,195	989,190	1,092,730
Percent Change (%)		13	10	10
United States	248,765,170	281,421,906	312,157,100	346,599,300
Percent Change (%)		13	11	11

Notes: Data for Big Horn and Valley Counties represent the whole of the counties, including the areas outside of the planning area.  
Numbers have been rounded.

Source: Montana Department of Commerce (2003)

**TABLE 22  
NEW RESIDENTS SINCE 1995**

<b>County/Area</b>		<b>Residents from Different County<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Total Residents in County</b>
Big Horn	Total	1,861	11,481
	Percent (%)	16	
Carter	Total	201	1,306
	Percent (%)	15	
Custer	Total	2,125	11,005
	Percent (%)	19	
Daniels	Total	248	1,924
	Percent (%)	13	
Dawson	Total	1,705	8,568
	Percent (%)	20	
Fallon	Total	437	2,701
	Percent (%)	16	
Garfield	Total	156	1,194
	Percent (%)	13	
McCone	Total	289	1,864
	Percent (%)	16	
Powder River	Total	362	1,747
	Percent (%)	21	
Prairie	Total	224	1,148
	Percent (%)	20	
Richland	Total	1,344	9,063
	Percent (%)	15	
Roosevelt	Total	1,070	9,764
	Percent (%)	11	
Rosebud	Total	1,629	8,618
	Percent (%)	19	
Sheridan	Total	485	3,887
	Percent (%)	12	
Treasure	Total	178	813
	Percent (%)	22	
Valley	Total	1,204	7,283
	Percent (%)	17	
Wibaux	Total	184	1,011
	Percent (%)	18	
Study Area	Total	13,702	83,377
	Percent (%)	16	
Montana	Total	195,434	847,362
	Percent (%)	23	
United States	Total	47,416,815	262,375,152
	Percent (%)	18	

Notes: <sup>1</sup> Number of residents who lived in a different county in 1995  
Population is 5 years and over.  
Data for Big Horn and Valley Counties represent the whole of the counties, including the areas outside of the planning area  
Numbers have been rounded.

Source: Sonoran Institute (2004)

**TABLE 23  
HOUSEHOLDS IN 2000**

<b>County/Area</b>	<b>Total Households</b>	<b>Percent of Children Under Age 18 Living at Home (%)</b>	<b>Percent of Married Couples (%)</b>	<b>Percent of Female Householder No Husband (%)</b>	<b>Percent of Non-families (%)</b>	<b>Percent of Individuals (%)</b>	<b>Percent of Living Alone 65 Years or Older (%)</b>	<b>Average Household Size</b>	<b>Average Family Size</b>
Big Horn	3,924	42	54	18	23	19	7	3	4
Carter	543	31	61	7	30	27	15	2	3
Custer	4,768	30	51	10	35	30	12	2	3
Daniels	892	24	55	6	37	34	18	2	3
Dawson	3,625	30	59	7	32	28	12	2	3
Fallon	1,470	32	61	6	30	27	13	2	3
Garfield	532	29	60	5	31	28	14	2	3
McCone	810	30	67	4	26	25	11	2	3
Powder River	737	31	65	4	29	25	10	2	3
Prairie	537	22	61	2	34	31	17	2	3
Richland	3,878	34	57	7	32	29	13	2	3
Roosevelt	3,581	41	47	19	27	24	10	3	3
Rosebud	3,307	39	56	12	27	24	8	3	3
Sheridan	1,741	27	58	5	35	32	17	2	3
Treasure	357	31	59	4	32	30	15	2	3
Valley	3,150	30	56	8	32	29	12	2	2
Wibaux	421	29	58	6	32	29	16	2	3
<b>Study Area Total/Average</b>	<b>44,273</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>

Notes: Data for Big Horn and Valley Counties represent the whole of the counties, including the areas outside of the planning area. Numbers have been rounded.

Source: Wikipedia (2005)

**TABLE 24**  
**AGE DISTRIBUTION IN 2000**

<b>County/Area</b>	<b>UnderAge 18 (%)</b>	<b>Age 18 to 24 (%)</b>	<b>Age 25 to 44 (%)</b>	<b>Age 45 to 54 (%)</b>	<b>Age 65 and Older (%)</b>
Big Horn	36	9	27	21	9
Carter	27	4	25	27	18
Custer	25	8	26	24	17
Daniels	22	5	20	30	24
Dawson	23	9	25	25	18
Fallon	26	6	26	25	18
Garfield	25	7	23	26	19
McCone	25	5	24	27	19
Powder River	27	5	23	27	19
Prairie	19	4	20	33	24
Richland	28	6	27	24	16
Roosevelt	35	8	26	20	12
Rosebud	34	7	26	25	9
Sheridan	23	5	22	27	24
Treasure	28	5	23	27	17
Valley	25	6	24	26	19
Wibaux	26	6	23	24	22
<b>Study Area Average</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>18</b>

Notes: Data for Big Horn and Valley Counties represent the whole of the counties, including the areas outside of the planning area.

Numbers have been rounded.

Source: Wikipedia (2005)

**TABLE 25  
RACE AND ETHNICITY IN 2000**

<b>County/Area</b>		<b>White</b>	<b>Black or African American</b>	<b>American Indian &amp; Alaska Native</b>	<b>Asian</b>	<b>Native Hawaiian &amp; Other Pacific Islander</b>	<b>Some Other Race</b>	<b>Two or More Races</b>	<b>Total Population</b>	<b>Hispanic or Latino (of any race)</b>
Big Horn	Total People	4,638	5	7,560	28	1	86	353	12,671	465
	Percent (%)	37	0	60	0	0	1	3	100	4
Carter	Total People	1,341	1	5	2	0	4	7	1,360	8
	Percent (%)	99	0	0	0	0	0	1	100	1
Custer	Total People	11,347	11	149	30	6	40	113	11,696	177
	Percent (%)	97	0	1	0	0	0	1	100	2
Daniels	Total People	1,937	0	26	5	2	12	35	2,017	32
	Percent (%)	96	0	1	0	0	1	2	100	2
Dawson	Total People	8,826	23	111	12	1	28	58	9,059	81
	Percent (%)	97	0	1	0	0	0	1	100	1
Fallon	Total People	2,797	4	9	10	1	3	13	2,837	11
	Percent (%)	99	0	0	0	0	0	1	100	0
Garfield	Total People	1,268	1	5	1	1	0	3	1,279	5
	Percent (%)	99	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	0
McCone	Total People	1,917	6	21	6	0	0	27	1,977	19
	Percent (%)	97	0	1	0	0	0	1	100	1
Powder River	Total People	1,810	0	33	2	0	4	9	1,858	11
	Percent (%)	97	0	2	0	0	0	1	100	1
Prairie	Total People	1,175	0	6	2	0	2	14	1,199	8
	Percent (%)	98	0	1	0	0	0	1	100	1
Richland	Total People	9,335	9	141	17	1	82	82	9,667	209
	Percent (%)	97	0	2	0	0	1	1	100	2
Roosevelt	Total People	4,347	5	5,921	46	5	27	269	10,620	131
	Percent (%)	41	0	56	0	0	0	3	100	1

**TABLE 25  
RACE AND ETHNICITY IN 2000 (CONTINUED)**

<b>County/Area</b>		<b>White</b>	<b>Black or African American</b>	<b>American Indian &amp; Alaska Native</b>	<b>Asian</b>	<b>Native Hawaiian &amp; Other Pacific Islander</b>	<b>Some Other Race</b>	<b>Two or More Races</b>	<b>Total Population</b>	<b>Hispanic or Latino (of any race)</b>
Rosebud	Total People	6,043	22	3,041	27	0	61	189	9,383	219
	Percent (%)	64	0	32	0	0	1	2	100	2
Sheridan	Total People	3,982	4	50	12	1	8	48	4,105	44
	Percent (%)	97	0	1	0	0	0	1	100	1
Treasure	Total People	830	1	14	3	0	8	5	861	13
	Percent (%)	96	0	2	0	0	1	1	100	2
Valley	Total People	6,765	10	723	19	1	20	137	7,675	60
	Percent (%)	88	0	9	0	0	0	2	100	1
Wibaux	Total People	1,047	2	5	2	0	3	9	1,068	4
	Percent (%)	98	0	1	0	0	0	1	100	0
Study Area	Total People	69,405	104	17,820	224	20	388	1,371	89,332	1,497
	Percent (%)	78	0	20	0	0	0	2	100	2
Montana	Total People	817,229	2,692	56,068	4,691	470	5,315	15,730	902,195	18,081
	Percent (%)	91	0	6	1	0	1	2	100	2
United States	Total People	211,460,626	34,658,190	2,475,956	10,242,998	398,835	15,359,073	6,826,228	281,421,906	35,305,818
	Percent (%)	75	12	1	4	0	6	2	100	13

Notes: Data for Big Horn and Valley Counties represent the whole of the counties, including the areas outside of the planning area. Numbers have been rounded.

Source: Sonoran Institute (2004)

**TABLE 26**  
**EDUCATION IN 2000**

<b>County/Area</b>	<b>Percent of High School Graduate (%)</b>	<b>Percent of Bachelors Degree or Higher (%)</b>
Big Horn	76	14
Carter	83	14
Custer	85	19
Daniels	85	14
Dawson	83	15
Fallon	86	14
Garfield	85	17
McCone	86	16
Powder River	83	16
Prairie	79	15
Richland	84	17
Roosevelt	81	16
Rosebud	84	18
Sheridan	81	18
Treasure	86	18
Valley	84	16
Wibaux	77	16
Study Area Average	83	16
Montana	87	24
United States	80	24

Notes: Persons are age 25 and older.  
 Data for Big Horn and Valley Counties represent the whole of the counties, including the areas outside of the planning area.  
 Numbers have been rounded.

Source: United States Census Bureau (2000a)

**TABLE 27**  
**HOUSING AFFORDABILITY IN 2000**

County/Area	Housing Affordability Index <sup>1</sup>
Big Horn	179
Carter	330
Custer	217
Daniels	280
Dawson	217
Fallon	285
Garfield	317
McCone	298
Powder River	205
Prairie	313
Richland	228
Roosevelt	208
Rosebud	221
Sheridan	273
Treasure	298
Valley	233
Wibaux	323
Study Area Average	260
Montana	144
United States	148

Notes: <sup>1</sup> 100 or above indicates that the median family can afford the median house.  
 Data for Big Horn and Valley Counties represent the whole of the counties, including the areas outside of the planning area.  
 Numbers have been rounded.

Source: Sonoran Institute (2004)

**TABLE 28**  
**INDIAN RESERVATION DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION, 1990 AND 2000**

<b>Reservation</b>	<b>1990 Total Population</b>	<b>2000 Total Population</b>	<b>Percent Change (%)</b>	<b>1990 Indian Population</b>	<b>2000 Indian Population</b>	<b>Percent Change (%)</b>	<b>Percent Indian 1990 (%)</b>	<b>Percent Indian 2000 (%)</b>
Fort Peck	NA	10,321	NA	NA	6,391	NA	NA	62
Crow	6,366	6,894	8	4,724	5,165	9	74	75
Northern Cheyenne	3,923	4,470	14	3,542	4,029	14	90	90

Note: NA: Data not available.  
 Numbers have been rounded.

Source: US Census Bureau (2000b)